

More of the same
The carbon-copy polygamist that lurks in every man
Libby Purves, page 17

A great meal for 20p
Dine out for the price of *The Times*
Details, token, p38

Curtain up after five years
Emma Thompson's mother gets back to the stage
Jeremy Kingston, page 35

20P

THE TIMES

No. 65,169

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 20 1995

Leaked letter on budget for schools
forecast effect of funding squeeze

'Jobs will go' warning by Shephard

By John O'Leary and Ben Preston

THOUSANDS of teaching posts will disappear and class sizes will "shoot up" if teachers receive their expected pay rise, Gillian Shephard warned Cabinet colleagues in a leaked letter published today.

The Education Secretary's comments, made in the run-up to last November's public spending settlement, succeeded in wringing from the Treasury another £133 million for education. But the 1.1 per cent increase is well below the inflation rate and falls far short of the money needed to fund the pay rise she considered necessary. The result will inevitably be substantial job losses and bigger classes.

The letter, published in today's edition of *The Times Educational Supplement*, looked forward to a "period of calm" in classrooms after the ending of test boycotts. "All this will now be in immediate danger if we now offer teachers either a progressively less settlement, or acceptable pay levels only at the cost of sharp increases in class sizes."

Mrs Shephard has since instructed the School Teachers' Review Body to "have regard to affordability" in recommending any increase for the coming year. However, as the Education Secretary predicted in the leaked letter, the board is expected to recommend an increase of 2.9 per cent, the rate of inflation, when it reports within weeks.

She was writing to David Hunt, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, in his capacity as chairman of the Cabinet committee dealing with education spending. She forecast that up to 10,000 teaching posts would be lost if the 0.3 per cent budget increase on offer at the time was combined with an inflation-linked pay rise for teachers.

On that basis, the eventual 1.1 per cent increase would still imply the loss of several thousand jobs and a consequent rise in class sizes at a time when there are an extra 120,000 pupils. Mrs Shephard



Shephard succeeded in winning £133m more

told education authorities earlier this month that they faced "tough decisions", but reminded councillors that education had been treated more favourably than other public services.

Class sizes have grown steadily over the past four years. The pupil-teacher ratio in primary schools has risen from 22.0 in 1990 to 22.7 in 1994; the increase in secondary schools was from 15.4 to 16.4.

Teacher numbers have remained relatively stable despite a 4 per cent increase in the number of pupils. Local authorities and school governors are already forecasting job losses and bigger classes. A *Times Educational Supplement* survey found only 11 authorities able to afford a pay rise in line with inflation, with many expecting schools to find the money to increase teachers' pay.

In the leaked letter, Mrs Shephard raised the possibility of rejecting the review body's recommendations, but said that would be provocative if other review bodies fared better. "I cannot emphasise too strongly the importance of not seeming to single teachers out for harsh treatment."

David Blunkett, Shadow Education Secretary, said: "Gillian Shephard has clearly admitted that the Government is going to force up class sizes as a result of the cuts it has imposed on schools. We have

been saying this since the Budget, and we now have clear confirmation from the pen of the Secretary of State herself."

The Education Department refused to comment on the letter. A spokesman said that Mrs Shephard regarded education authority budgets as "manageable".

The Association of County Councils said that the figures in the leaked letter underestimated the scale of the budget squeeze facing councillors. David Whitbread, the association's under-secretary for education, said Whitehall formulas ignored the fact that most councils already spent almost 4 per cent more than the Government allowed.

Mr Whitbread said: "Mrs Shephard is shown to be speaking with two voices: sharing people's concern for increasing class sizes when talking to the Treasury, but having to restrain the line in public that class sizes do not matter and are not linked to standards."

Don Foster, the Liberal Democrat education spokesman, said his analysis of official figures obtained in a parliamentary written answer showed that local education authorities faced a £90 (or 2.5 per cent) spending cut for each primary pupil. Each secondary pupil risked a reduction of £194 (6.9 per cent).

Mr Foster, whose calculations were based upon changes in the standard spending assessment of each education authority, said that the worst-affected areas for secondary funding would be Sutton (9.4 per cent cut), Solihull (8.7), Wigan (8.5) and Barking (7.9).

He said: "Local education authorities are being asked to do more and more for their pupils with less and less money. No wonder class sizes are rising, repairs are not being carried out and more and more town halls fear that teachers' jobs will have to be axed."



Claire Hood, 15, whose body was found in woodland close to her Cardiff home

Girl, aged 15, is murdered taking short cut to school

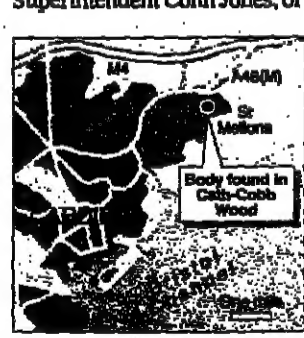
By Kathryn Knight and Simon de Brunelles

The partially clothed body of a 15-year-old girl was found in woods yesterday after she went missing while walking to school.

Detectives believe Claire Hood may have been attacked while taking a short cut through Cathod Woods near the St Mellons housing estate on the outskirts of Cardiff. She failed to arrive back at Rummy high school after going home for lunch on Wednesday.

A 13-year-old girl from the same school escaped after a man hit her over the head with a piece of wood while she was walking home on the same afternoon. Although detectives say there is no evidence the two assaults are linked they have placed the girl under

police protection. Claire's body was found by a 14-year-old boy cycling yesterday morning near a path through the woods. Friends said last night that although she would have walked past the woods on her way to school, she never ventured in. Detective Superintendent Colin Jones, of



the South Wales serious crime squad, who is heading the murder inquiry, said: "Someone has ended this girl's young life before it has ever properly started."

There is no evidence that Claire was sexually assaulted before she died.

Robert Gullis, Claire's headmaster, said last night: "We are sending a letter to all parents advising them to make sure their children take extra care. They should walk in groups and raise the alarm as soon as possible if they see anything untoward. We are obviously very distressed."

The schoolgirl who escaped described her attacker as white, in his late twenties or early thirties, and approximately 5ft 7in tall.

Russians take Grozny palace but fighting continues

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN IN ASSINOVSKAYA

RUSSIAN troops captured the Presidential Palace in the centre of Grozny yesterday. The Chechen Government admitted that its forces had abandoned the building after it was reduced to rubble by bombing.

But Aslan Maskhadov, the Chechen Commander-in-Chief, said that the loss of the palace was of no military significance. Chechen troops would continue their fight in the rest of the capital.

Colonel Maskhadov looked tired and grim at a press conference in Nazran, capital of the neighbouring republic of Ingushetia, after unsuccessful talks in Moscow with the Russian Government aimed at arranging a ceasefire. "We don't say that we want to defeat the Russian army; that would be stupid. It only remains to die honourably for our country," he said.

Throughout the day, Russian artillery and jets pounded the centre of Grozny around the palace and the southern approaches to the city, as well as villages and roads in the Caucasus. Colonel Maskhadov said that the palace had been abandoned after "special Russian bombs" with time-delay fuses had damaged the bunker beneath it, making it useless as a headquarters.

The Chechen HQ had been moved half a mile to a site in the Chechen-held eastern half of the city. "I as a soldier see no change in our position and our duty," he said. "Our high command continues to exist. Our volunteers are at their places and are ready to fight on harder than ever. If they think they can insult and enslave the Chechen people, this fighting will go on for years."

The Chechens now hold only one small salient near the railway station west of the Sunzha, the river running through Grozny. The loss of the palace might lead to the Chechen defences crumbling, a successful Russian push across the Sunzha, and the rapid capture of the rest of the city. The Russian generals, having achieved something they can present to their public as a victory, may now be prepared to reopen political negotiations with the Chechens.

Echoing previous statements by Dzhokhar Dudayev, the Chechen leader, however, Colonel Maskhadov and his colleagues on the Chechen delegation accused the Russian military of destroying a ceasefire agreement already worked out in Moscow. Colonel Maskhadov said that on Wednesday evening he spoke

to General Ivan Babichev by radio and said he was ready to meet to end the fighting. General Babichev allegedly said that the only conditions Russia would accept would be the surrender of the Presidential Palace and all its garrison. Colonel Maskhadov said the general later insisted on total Chechen capitulation. Colonel Maskhadov said: "I took this as an insult, and I told him that I would not behave like a coward and nor would my men. I said that I could not agree to his conditions, and bade him goodbye."

Fighting continued around Assinovskaya village near the western Chechen border with Ingushetia, where Russian forces appeared to be stalled. If they are, there will be little to stop Chechen fighters from leaving Grozny to begin a guerrilla campaign.

SMALL WONDER MAKES BIG IMPRESSION.

"Big audio dynamite"

THE OBSERVER, Sep. 18, 1994

"... a dramatic improvement in sound quality"

THE EUROPEAN, Oct. 13, 1994

"The Wave Radio is a great leap forward..."

THE SUNDAY TIMES, Sep. 18, 1994



Introducing the new Bose® Wave® Radio.
Enjoy its room-filling sound in your home.

The critics were impressed with its rich, clear sound.

Now it's your turn to enjoy this award-winning Bose® breakthrough. Don't look for the Wave® Radio in stores; it's available only directly from Bose.

Simply call the free number or send/fax the coupon below to receive a complete information kit or to try out the Wave® Radio in your home for 14 days, satisfaction guaranteed: **0800-614 293.**

When calling, please quote the reference number 2043

Yes, Bose, it sounds good to me.

Please send me more information about the Wave® Radio and the 14-day, no-risk audition.

Name _____ Mr./Mrs./Ms.
Tel. _____ day _____ eve
Address _____
Postcode _____

Please return in an envelope to: Bose, Freeport, L74 1HE, Liverpool L70 1HE. No postage necessary. Or fax to: 251-728 8923.

BOSE
Better sound through research.

Mortgage rates rise

The Halifax building society, biggest in the country, yesterday said it would raise its rate by 0.25 per cent to 8.35 per cent from April 1. The Nationwide and National & Provincial followed suit, by 0.3 per cent to 8.44 per cent, and by 0.36 per cent to 8.45 per cent respectively. Page 23

INDEX	
Births, marriages, deaths...	20
Bridge	6
Change	6, 44
Court and Social	20
Crossword	22
Leading articles	19
Letters	19
Obituaries	21
Weather	24
TV & Radio	42-43

Buying The Times across Europe:
Austria Sch. 40; Belgium Fr. 30; Canada \$1.25; Denmark Dkr. 12.00; France Fr. 14.00; Germany D.M. 14.00; Greece Dr. 450; Hong Kong HK\$ 32; Ireland £1.25; Italy Lit. 3,500; Japan ¥ 2,000; Korea ₩ 2,000; Norway Kr. 10.00; Portugal Esc. 350; Spain Ptas. 3,000; Sweden Sw. 18.00; Switzerland Fr. 4.00; Tunisia Din. 2,000; USA \$2.50.



Ministers put out peace signals

By Philip Webster, Political Editor

MINISTERS sent out fresh peace signals to the Euro-rebels last night, despite their rebellion on fishing and publication of a policy agenda that made them look even more like a party within a party.

In a move that caused surprise among loyalist backbenchers, senior cabinet ministers appeared ready to turn a blind eye to the latest revolt as John Major launched a fresh effort to unite his party behind his European policy and his approach to next year's conference on the future of the European Union.

Ministers said the fresh rebellion had not changed the Government's wish to bring an early end to the breach. They said it was accepted that the rebels had strong views on European issues and that Wednesday night's withdrawal of support from the Government did not amount to "re-offending while on bail".

That approach was mirrored by other cabinet ministers who appeared to suggest that if the rebels contained their acts of rebellion to European matters, and did not widen their misadventures, they might soon be able to

earn their passage back. Jonathan Aitken, the Euro-sceptic Treasury Chief Secretary, took a conciliatory line. He denied that the policy paper was a snub to Mr Major and said there were no grounds for saying that it made it impossible for them to return to the fold. They had long held independent views on Europe. Mr Major also took a relaxed line, refusing opportunities in the Commons to condemn the rebels' behaviour.

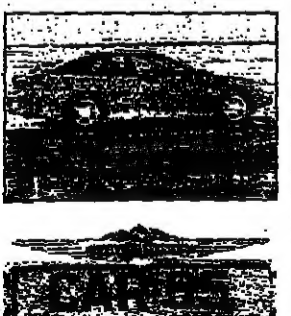
Some ministers expressed strong criticism of the rebel policy statement, though. John Gummer, Environment Secretary, said: "No government can operate in the United Kingdom without having sensible views toward Europe, but the Conservative Party has a very small number who don't want that sensible view."

It appeared that the Prime Minister and his colleagues had decided against doing anything to upset the new, but still fragile, mood of harmony. Continued on page 2, col 3

Sixes and sevens, and Peter Riddell, page 9
Leading article, and Letters, page 19

THE TIMES

30p ON SATURDAY



In *The Times* new motoring section tomorrow, your chance to win a different car to drive each month for a year — and a money-saving car hire offer for all readers

- PLUS**
- David Coulthard's other car
 - Testing the top ten bestsellers
 - Return of the super(fast)car
 - The good used-car guide

Quiet despair in Kobe's rubble

FROM PEREGRINE HODSON IN KOBE

THE stillness is unnerving. In the warm refuge of Kobe's city hall, hundreds of people wrapped in blankets sleep or stare into space. Their faces are blank; the chaos of the past few days has drained them of emotion. Now they must rebuild their lives, and it will not be easy.

The seismic explosion that detonated under their city has thrown them into a strange new world, where their homes are smoking heaps of rubble and their friends and relatives are dead.

I found cycling through Kobe a bizarre experience. In Chinatown, stone lions have been toppled from their pedestals, mechanical excavators tear like hungry monsters at the remains of a collapsed motorway. Fragments of glass rest like frost in the bowers of a window-box. Overhead, helicopters relentlessly thrud-thud across the sky so that film crews can capture the devastation.

At the Red Cross hospital, the injured are brought in — 60 on Wednesday, 85 yesterday. Between operations, a doctor spares a moment to talk. The situation is critical,

he says. Often, by the time ambulances reach the injured after navigating streets blocked by shattered buildings and tangled with telephone wires, it is too late. Those with head or chest injuries have little chance of survival. Several hospitals are so severely damaged that they cannot accept patients. Those that remain operational must struggle with limited water supplies.

The doctor fears for his nurses and ambulance drivers. They have managed to keep going with almost no sleep, but now their strength is fading fast and they need relief staff desperately.

Some way down the road, a long queue waits patiently to buy food at one of the few shops open. Some people have waited an hour or more. They feel bewildered and resentful. One man is angry about the Government's slow response to the disaster. "They're doing nothing. We don't have water — we're running out of food. Where are they? We need help."

Three days after the earthquake, it is unclear how much. Continued on page 14, col 8

Establishment 'has failed British film industry'

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT



Attenborough: said that self-confidence needed

LORD ATTENBOROUGH accused the political and financial Establishment yesterday of failing to recognise the cinema as a serious art form.

In a spirited hearing, the celebrated film director and actor told the Commons Select Committee on National Heritage that the key to reviving the British film industry lay in instilling the Government and film-makers with a positive attitude. "The most important thing is that everybody has confidence," he said, adding that "the manner in which the cinema is viewed by the Establishment and vast numbers of people" was not conducive to self-belief.

"The Establishment do not consider [cinema] has any artistic merit whatsoever and that is one of the problems that we face," he said.

Young film-makers had been indoctrinated to aim low, he said, because their horizons had been stunted by the limited funding available and because cinemas no longer showed B-films on which they could learn their craft.

Today's film-makers had grown up in a climate in which television companies had become the main financiers of British films and budgets were therefore small. "We have dissuaded our creators — the writers — from even contemplating generating something of real cinematic scale because their chances of getting them backed are one in a million," he told MPs.

Describing himself as a "permanent optimist" who had been in the business of 55 years, Lord Attenborough said he believed that indigenous film-makers had

the potential to turn Britain into the Hollywood of Europe.

He proposed a levy on blank video tapes and tax concessions for foreign actors filming here, to boost investment in British films.

"If you talk to people like Jack Nicholson, they say I'm not going to the UK because my tax people tell me they have all sorts of problems there," he said, adding that this could be remedied at relatively little cost by allowing film-makers to pay foreign film stars gross of tax. Lord Attenborough said that a new system of capital allowances, which would allow film-makers to write-off 100 per cent of their investment against corporation tax within one year, might also help the industry.

He emphasised, however, that he was not coming to the Government with a "begging bowl". Big

film distributors, such as Rank, needed to invest more to help develop large-scale, integrated production houses. Big American studios could afford to churn out hundreds of films a year because they used the profits of their hits to offset the losses of the flops.

The committee also heard evidence from the BBC and from Michael Grade, chief executive of Channel 4. Mr Grade told MPs that Channel 4, the single biggest funder of feature films in the UK, expected to make a return of at least £4 million on its investment of £400,000 in the hit film *Four Weddings and a Funeral*.

He added that although Channel 4 had invested £50 million in film production in the past five years, it had received only £15 million revenue. The company could afford to bear the losses because it offset them against the

television rights it automatically acquired for the films it financed. Apart from the cultural benefits of an indigenous film industry, Mr Grade said it could provide many jobs. "There is an amazing amount of employment on the periphery of a film: never mind the employment on the production itself," he said. He complained, however, that film distribution companies were reaping profits from the cinema, but failing to invest in production.

As part of their inquiry into the future of the British film industry, members of the all-party committee have recently made fact-finding trips to Hollywood and to Ireland. Toby Jessel, the Tory MP for Twickenham, said Britain could learn from Dublin's positive attitude towards film-making as well as the tax breaks the industry benefited from in the Republic.



Grade: film industry "can create jobs"

Army officer closing ranks claims of...

Nolan acts quickly to overhaul MPs' link to lobbyists

BY MICHAEL DYNES

AN INDEPENDENT authority with wide-ranging powers to regulate MPs' financial affairs was proposed by Lord Nolan's inquiry into standards of public life yesterday.

Rules governing the relationship between MPs and commercial lobbyists must be overhauled, and MPs should be given much more stringent guidance about what was and what was not acceptable, Lord Nolan said.

The decision to announce an overhaul so soon into the inquiry is seen as confirmation that the reputation of MPs has fallen into disrepute, and urgent action is needed to restore public confidence in Britain's representative institutions.

Lord Nolan said: "It seems plain from the evidence so far that the rules on MPs' connections with lobbyists need to be tightened up, that MPs need much better guidance on what is and what is not acceptable, and that the declaration of interests must be made in more detail." He added: "It is also reasonably clear that we need to consider in detail the possible introduction of an independent element into Parliament's current arrangements for self-regulation." But where to draw the line over MPs being paid for outside interests "is much less clear".

Giving evidence on the third day of the public hearings, Lord Callaghan of Cardiff, the former Labour Prime Minister, who was an MP for more than 40 years, said that it was now imperative for MPs to have a code of conduct governing their financial interests. MPs should declare any salaries they received for work outside Parliament and should be prohibited from acting as paid consultants unless they had a "particular professional expertise".

The situation in the Commons had "changed out of all recognition" from when he first became an MP in 1945, Lord Callaghan said. There was now "much more wooing of MPs by business", which had provided a "rich seam for lobbyists" to exploit.

Lord Callaghan provided the inquiry with a list of recommendations to reverse the deterioration in parliamentary standards, including a new code of conduct for

MPs, which should be adopted at the beginning of every new Parliament to draw the attention of new members to the importance of preserving "the dignity of the House".

MPs should be required to declare "all contracts, agreements, and remuneration from outside bodies", prohibited from "representing company interests to ministers", and the use of Commons facilities by lobbying firms "should be curtailed".

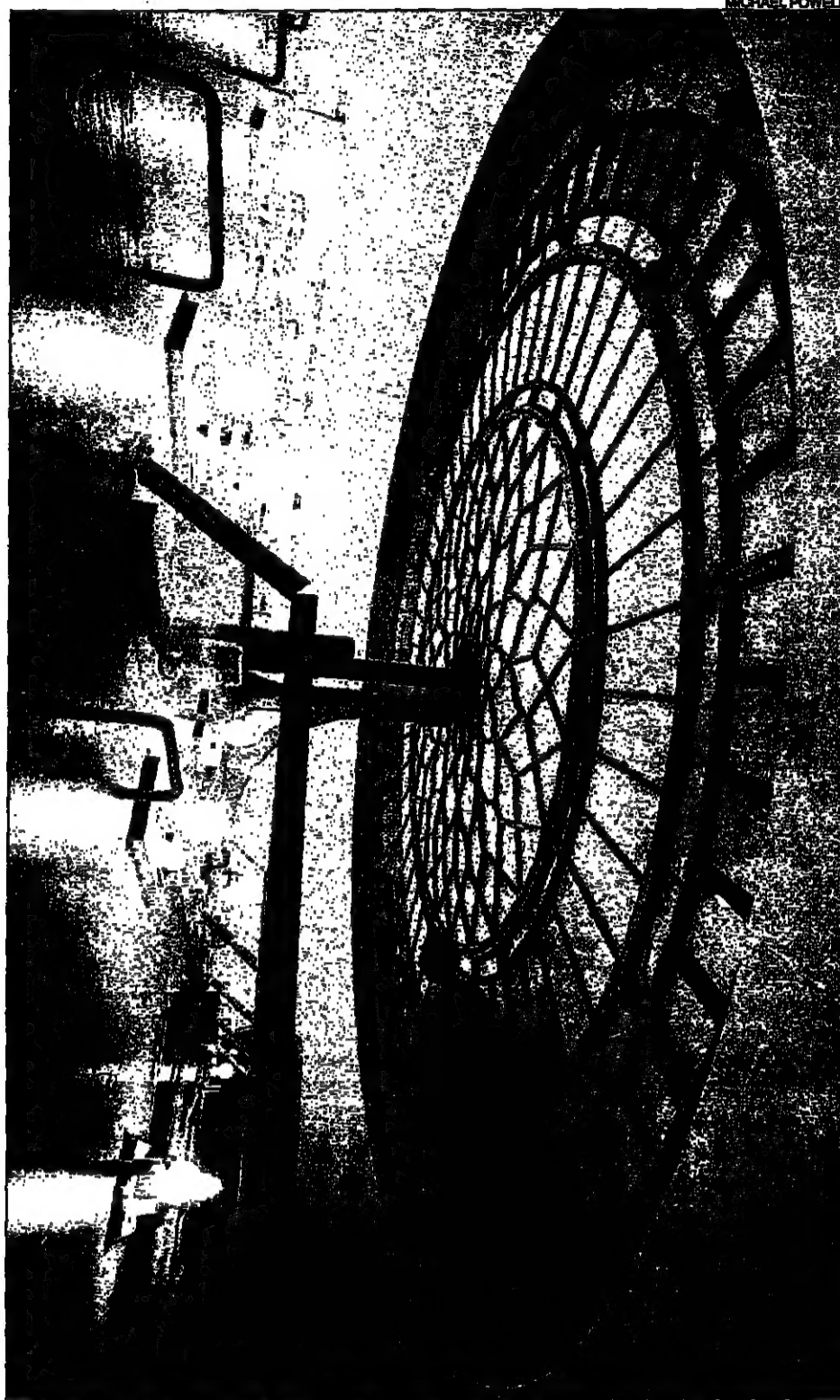
In addition, the Commons privileges committee should be restored to its former status, it should be made up of senior members of the Commons, an independent element should be added to it, and "it should not be hesitant in using its disciplinary powers".

"The sense of dignity of the House, and the honour of being a member" must be instilled into new members, Lord Callaghan said. This had become all the more important with the change in values of society. "New members come in imbued with the doctrine of the market place, and the idea of making a profit margin on everything you do," he added.

Chris Montcrieff, the former political editor of the Press Association, who worked as a Westminster correspondent for 33 years, told the inquiry that the lobbying industry had increased "massively" over the past few years. "There is far more lunching and dining involving professional lobbyists and MPs now," he said. "What astounds me is the naivety, you could even say downright stupidity, of MPs handling lobbyists."

Nigel Forman, Conservative MP for Carlisle and Wallington, told the inquiry that MPs should be banned from acting as advocates for outside interests, and as paid directors or employees of lobbying companies. However, MPs should be free to act as paid or unpaid advisors to outside interests, he added.

The inquiry continues next Tuesday. John MacGregor, former Transport Secretary, Andrew Gifford, of the Association of Professional Political Consultants, Peter Preston, Editor in Chief of *The Guardian* and *The Observer*, and Tony Benn, MP for Chesterfield, will give evidence.



Stan Hayley, a technical support foreman at the Palace of Westminster, checks the new low-energy bulbs illuminating the faces of the Big Ben clock before they were used for the first time last night

Ministers' peace signals

Continued from page 1 among Tory MPs. They appeared to recognise that they have little option but to try to recreate their parliamentary majority.

Wednesday's vote again emphasised the Government's vulnerability. Without the votes of Ulster Unionists, it would have lost. Although not all the rebels may want to come back quickly, the Government needs to bring some of them back on board as soon as it decently can.

The desire for a unified approach is underlined by a letter in *The Times* today signed by senior backbenchers from across the party spectrum. The signatories, headed by Tom King, the

former cabinet minister, include Sir Peter Hordern, David Howell, chairman of the foreign affairs select committee, and right-wing members of the 1922 executive such as Bob Dunn, David Evans and Jim Pawsey.

The letter, which is also clearly intended to be a rebuff to the views of the nine Euro-rebels, backs the negotiating position recently set out by Mr Major, adding that "the vast majority of Conservatives support a clear-headed approach to securing what is in Britain's best interests".

Earlier it had seemed that Mr Major's hopes of an early end to the rift took a blow as the rebels issued their own manifesto only 12 hours after

rebellious on the vote to allow Spanish trawlers greater access to British waters.

Many rebel demands, including rejection of a European-wide foreign and defence policy, abolition of the European Court's powers to intervene in national politics and a pledge never to join a single currency, go well beyond what the Government could accept. One of them, Tony Marlow, MP for Northampton North, said: "Unless the Conservative Party gets its policies right on Europe, the Government will not be re-elected."

Shires and seven, and Peter Riddell, page 9. Leading article, and Letters, page 19

Doctors say NHS damaged by private practice

BY JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

LEADING consultants alleged yesterday that the NHS is being undermined by the growth of private practice and the introduction of the Government's market reforms.

Dr Jeremy Lee-Potter, former chairman of the British Medical Association Council, attacked the Government's handling of the NHS and called for a new consultant contract to reduce public disquiet about doctors' "moonlighting" in private practice.

Announcing that he was quitting the NHS early, Dr Lee-Potter, 60, urged doctors to reconsider their traditional allegiance to the Conservative Party. "Doctors' professional ethos is at greater threat from a Conservative than a Labour Government. Labour could correct some of the Tory Government's excesses."

Dr Lee-Potter, is retiring from his post as consultant haematologist at Poole NHS Trust, Dorset, next month. In an article to be published in the association's *New Review* next week, Dr Lee-Potter says unhappiness with the NHS changes is now so serious that "the whole service is under threat" but the Government remains wedded to the "political dogma" of markets and competition. "You see the NHS going on down the slope."

Dr Lee-Potter says that concerns over private practice have exposed the "archaic" consultant contract. "We need to renegotiate a clean straightforward contract which makes it clear where consultants are expected to be and when."

Professor Harry Keen, emeritus professor of human metabolism at Guy's Hospital in London and president of the NHS Support Federation, which is opposed to the NHS market, said surgeons had time on their hands because the shortage of resources limited the NHS work they could do so they turned to private practice. "I know that is happening. Surgeons complain if only they had the chance to tackle the waiting list they would do it."

A junior doctor told an inquiry she had to work an 84-hour week and managed to get to the theatre at lunchtime only twice in six months. Dr Valerie Dudgeon, 24, formerly a senior house officer at the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Paisley, is one of four doctors taking a test case to an industrial tribunal in Glasgow. They claim they were underpaid for their work.

Police have electric shock 'riot shields'

Police have bought electric shock "riot shields" to add to their armouries. The disclosure that several forces in England and Wales have obtained the equipment sparked alarm among MPs and civil liberties groups. David Maclean, a junior Home Office Minister, admitted in a written parliamentary answer that the equipment had been obtained by senior officers, but he denied that the shields would be used in confrontations with demonstrators.

The admission came nine days after a Channel Four *Dispatches* programme alleged that police were secretly testing shields with electric currents in them. At the time, the Home Office said no force had or planned to have electric shock weapons. A Home Office spokesman denied inconsistency yesterday and said that the shields were not "weapons", but "defensive instruments".

MPs criticise taxmen

Tax collectors were accused of making widespread and costly errors in assessing income tax and were told to speed up their work by the Commons Public Accounts Committee. More than half of taxpayers studied by independent auditors were assessed incorrectly, with £770 million of overcharging and undercharging costing the Treasury about £100 million. The Inland Revenue was also criticised for withholding personal allowances from 100,000 taxpayers, although inspectors already had the necessary information.

Ireland ambassador

Britain has appointed a new ambassador to Ireland. Veronica Sutherland will take over in March from David Blatherwick, who is leaving Dublin to take up a new appointment in the diplomatic service. Mrs Sutherland, 55, is currently an assistant under-secretary at the Foreign Office. She has previously served as ambassador to the Ivory Coast.

Girl died in rescue effort

A teenage girl died in a vain attempt to save her three-year-old brother from a fire he is thought to have started with a lighter. Southwark Coroner's Court was told yesterday. Natasha Kearns Ogilvie, 14, and her brother Thomas Kearns were killed by smoke fumes in the blaze at their home in Kidbrooke, southeast London, in October. Their mother and three other children escaped. Verdict: accidental death.

Falklands soldiers sue

Four former Welsh Guardsmen who claim to be suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder as a result of the Falklands conflict are suing the Ministry of Defence for £200,000 each. The men are Derry Price, 33, of Aberystwyth, Gwent; Simon Skinner, 35, of Manselton, West Glamorgan; Dennis Morris, 38, of Tredegar, Gwent; and Chris Lewis, 30, of Port Talbot. Three served on the *Sir Galahad* and the fourth on *HMS Intrepid*.

Spain frees soccer fans

Seven Manchester United fans remained in custody in Barcelona after a European Cup match in November were fined a total of £2,000 and freed yesterday. The charges related to a fight over the cost of beer drunk by the fans in a hotel bar. The prosecution had demanded six months in prison and £3,250 compensation, but an out-of-court agreement was reached after a ten-minute hearing at which the seven pleaded guilty.

NHS adviser charged

Clive Froggatt, 46, of Gloucester, a doctor who helped the Government to reform the NHS by acting as adviser to the Department of Health on GP fundholding, was committed for trial on bail yesterday accused of illegally obtaining and possessing heroin. The prosecution made clear to Gloucester magistrates that the 16 charges before them were specimens of Dr Froggatt's alleged conduct during an 18-month period from early 1993.

Gatti to join RPO

The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra has appointed Daniele Gatti, the Milanese conductor, as its music director for the 1996-97 season. It was disclosed last month that Vladimir Ashkenazy had resigned the post after learning that the orchestra had been negotiating behind his back. Mr Gatti is music director of the Accademia di Santa Cecilia in Rome and principal guest conductor of the Royal Opera, Covent Garden.

Ice Age spiders found

A species of spider previously unknown to Britain has been discovered by scientists in a bog dating from the Ice Age. The black spider, known as *Gnaphosa nigerrima*, is found on the Continent and is believed to have become isolated in Britain when the island broke away from the rest of Europe 7,000 years ago. Dr Chris Felton, a Liverpool entomologist, said yesterday that a whole population had been unearthed at Wymburn Moss in Cheshire.

Coastguards praise 'textbook' rescue of 18 oilmen

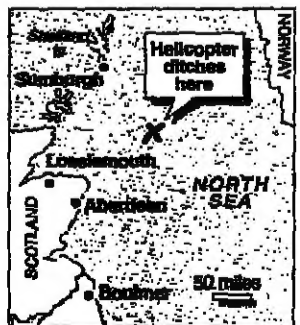
By Gillian Bowforth, Scotland Correspondent

THE rescue of 18 oilmen whose helicopter ditched in the North Sea yesterday afternoon after being struck by lightning was hailed as the perfect operation yesterday.

The men, who spent an hour and a half in life rafts before they were found, were all uninjured. Six helicopters, an airplane and several ships were involved in the rescue after the Super Puma chopper made a controlled landing 150 miles from Aberdeen.

Peter Flood, of the Aberdeen coastguard, said: "Everything seemed to come together. It was a textbook rescue. It must have been very frightening for the men involved but we are all relieved that it has been so successful."

The Bristol-owned helicopter, chartered by Marathon, an American oil company,



was ten miles from the company's Brae Alpha platform in the North Sea and heading for Aberdeen with 16 oil workers and two crew when it was struck by lightning. The pilot made a Mayday call before ditching at 12.45pm. One minute later, rescue helicopters were launched from RAF Lossiemouth, Grampian, Boulmer, Northumberland,

and from the coastguard base at Sumburgh in Shetland. A Norwegian civilian helicopter and another helicopter from the oil platform joined in the mission as did several ships in the area.

The oilmen, all of whom were wearing special immersion suits and are trained in helicopter evacuation techniques, were able to launch the helicopter's two inflatable life rafts and clamber aboard. The chopper also has push-out windows for passengers to make a fast exit, and distress beacons.

After an hour-and-a-half the men were rescued by an oil supply standby vessel, *Gramplan Freedom*. The helicopter from RAF Lossiemouth then winched 14 of the men on board to take them back to the Brae Alpha platform for medical checks. The other four opted to stay on the ship. Winds were gusting up to



A Bristol helicopter similar to the one that ditched

30mph but seas were moderate and visibility good. North Sea helicopter operators have been concerned about a number of recent lightning strikes to aircraft in the area. The Department of Transport said a seven-strong team from the Air Accidents Investigation Branch was travelling to Aberdeen. The last major North Sea

helicopter crash was in March 1992 when a Super Puma went down in severe weather off the Cormorant Alpha platform. On that occasion eleven oilmen died and six survived. The Super Puma is regarded as the most sophisticated of its kind. There are about 40 in use with British companies. It is rapidly replacing the Sikorsky S61 N as the "workhorse"

Medic... to go...

THE TIMES FRIDAY JANUARY 20 1995

Olympics official says second lieutenant enjoyed being centre of attention

Army officers deny closing ranks over claims of bullying

By RICHARD DUCE

AN ARMY officer alleged to have been involved in bullying incidents that drove a young second lieutenant to mental breakdown is a senior figure within the British Olympic movement. It emerged in the High Court yesterday. Former Lieutenant Simon Clegg, now deputy general secretary of the British Olympic Association, said the junior officer "was not bullied in any way in his time with the Army, of that I am convinced".

Alastair Green is suing the Ministry of Defence and Mr Clegg, along with nine other named officers of the 7th Royal Horse Artillery, claiming episodes of humiliating bullying ten years ago led to his mental breakdown after 19 weeks of a short-term commission.

Mr Clegg, 36, currently organising the European Youth Olympics in Bath, denied he was involved in an incident in which Mr Clegg claims he was dragged from his bedroom and stripped naked in the mess bar at Aldershot. He admitted he was present at another incident in which Mr Green, then aged 19, claims he was stripped naked and strapped to a ceremonial cannon outside the regimental mess with a rose between his buttocks.

Mr Clegg said he was sober when he arrived at the mess as Mr Green was being carried out "in a ceremonial fashion" from the building before being draped over the cannon. He told Mr Justice Popplewell that all the officers involved

had had a lot to drink and Mr Green appeared in no way distressed. "Mr Green revelled in being the centre of attraction. He was a popular officer. I am not trying to paint the regiment whiter than white. We enjoyed working hard and playing hard."

Another of the named officers, Nigel Bedford, now a Lieutenant Colonel, accepted his career would be finished if Mr Green's allegations were found to be true. "It would have been nothing short of catastrophic for my career if I had taken part in or witnessed this sort of thing," he said.

Lt Col Bedford, who has served in Northern Ireland, the Falklands and northern Iraq, denied Mr Green had ever been bullied. "The officers enjoy practical jokes and exchanging jokes and enjoyed boisterous fun. Mr Green entered fully into the spirit of this. He loved being in the officers' mess and enjoyed being in the company of people who enjoyed life."

"Throughout my career it has constantly been brought home to me by reports in the papers about bullying that that sort of behaviour is not tolerated in the Army, and rightly so."

Lt Col Bedford, who was a Captain and mess secretary at the time of the alleged bullying in 1985, said Mr Green had acquired the nickname "Ten Inch", not as a sarcastic reference to the size of his penis, but because other officers believed him to be a "virgin soldier".

"In the early days, we believed he was a virgin and that it would be a good idea if we helped him lose his virginity. At a particular party I believe he was given the nickname to make him more attractive to members of the opposite sex."

He said virtually everyone in the mess had a nickname. He was called "Bed-pan" and the doctor's wife "Nurse Whip".

Under cross-examination from Sydney Kentridge QC, for Mr Green, Lt Col Bedford denied he and other officers had "closed ranks" and were denying involvement in the bullying to protect themselves. Mr Green, now 29, and living in Japan where he works as an English teacher, has told the court he was stripped on another occasion after being invited to a toga party in the mess, and also that he had been the victim of a homosexual assault by an officer in his bedroom. The defence denies all the allegations except the cannon incident, in which it says Mr Green was a willing participant.

The named officers along with Mr Clegg and Lieutenant Colonel Bedford are Captains Christopher Laing (now dead), Nicholas Syrett and Marcus Semblon. Majors William Moore, John Murphy, John Buchanan and Jonathan Hull, and Lieutenant Marcus Pakenham (who has not been served with the proceedings and is not represented). The hearing continues.



Alastair Green in his days as a second lieutenant with the Royal Horse Artillery

Parker Bowles union undone in three minutes

By ALAN HAMILTON

BRIGADIER Andrew Parker Bowles and his wife Camilla were granted a decree nisi along with 31 other divorcing couples at a three-minute hearing yesterday.

The end of the 21-year marriage was enacted in a small room of bare institutional palls in Somerset House, a palace of sorrows that houses not only the High Court family division but also the Inland Revenue. Neither party was present. Indeed, no one was present apart from the judge, the court clerk and ten reporters.

Outside in the cold, a lone photographer lurked, awaiting the million-to-one chance that someone recognisable would turn up. He was, naturally, disappointed. Unlike in Mrs Simpson's day, when she had to be hustled off to Ipswich in the vain hope that her hearing would pass unnoted, the legal act of divorce is painless, clinical and brief.

On the door of court 2 was pinned the day's cause list, 32 names in vaguely alphabetical order, with "Parker Bowles, C.R. v A.H." third from bottom. The order of initials showed that A.H. had allowed C.R. to petition him, rather than the other way round. The couple's joint statement last week said they were divorcing by mutual consent, but one party has to set the legal ball rolling, and the informal opinion of law-

yers yesterday was that for A.H. to let C.R. do the petitioning was the gentlemanly thing to do.

In her affidavit, which was not produced, Mrs Parker Bowles had stated that it became clear in February 1992 that her marriage had irretrievably broken down; since then her husband had spent only 90 nights in their marital home at Corsham, Wiltshire. Senior District Judge Gerald Angel entered at 10.30. Mrs Carole Barry, the court clerk, switched on a tape recorder and recited the list of 32 names.

The judge glanced briefly around his modest courtroom: "Does any party or person wish to show cause against the decrees being pronounced?" A pause, and silence. "I pronounce the decrees." The judge made an order for costs in another case, rose, and left the court. It was still only 10.33.

Now the Parker Bowleses are free to apply for a decree absolute which, assuming no one comes forward to challenge the petition, will be granted six weeks from today.

Ken Stronach, the Prince of Wales's personal valet under royal investigation over newspaper revelations, was yesterday questioned by the Prince's private secretary, Commander Richard Aylard, about his role in the articles.

Officials 'milked' NHS of £400,000

By A STAFF REPORTER

TWO health officials and three businessmen milked nearly £400,000 from the NHS to fund a lavish lifestyle, a court was told yesterday. It was alleged that money paid for consultancy services that were never provided was spent on holidays and tickets for rugby internationals.

David Elfer, for the prosecution, said the conspiracy began after Wessex Regional Health Authority awarded a £1.7 million contract to Abbey Business Consultants for work on its computer system.

The owner of the company was Arthur Tully, described as the "brains and the man with skills to be a puppet master". Mr Elfer said Mr Tully, together with an employee, Richard Haver, and a consultant, William Beilie, hatched the scheme to inflate the contract with two officials of the authority, Hamer Norman and James Lewis.

Winchester Crown Court was told that the operation worked successfully until Mr Norman and Mr Lewis were suspended in 1991. "It was noticed that Lewis had a lot of spare cash," Mr Elfer said.

Mr Tully, 59, of Chandlers Ford, Hampshire, Mr Norman, 56, of Winchester, and Mr Beilie, 44, of Romsey, Hampshire, all deny conspiracy to defraud the health authority. Mr Lewis, 57, of Bishopstoke, Hampshire, is too ill to stand trial. Haver, 48, of Chandlers Ford, admitted conspiracy to defraud and will be sentenced at the end of the trial. The case is expected to last ten weeks.



Police officers take Ruth Neave for questioning

Murdered boy's mother arrested

By RICHARD DUCE

THE mother of Rikki Neave, the six-year-old boy found naked and strangled close to his home last November, was arrested yesterday by police investigating his murder.

Ruth Neave, 26, was being questioned last night at Thorpewood police station in Peterborough.

Police have until 7.30 tonight to continue interviews with Mrs Neave before they must apply to a magistrate for permission to continue holding her in custody.

Rikki was found dead in a copse some 500 yards away from his home on the Welland estate in Peterborough on November 29. He had been strangled.

His body was found after his mother, who has three other children, reported him missing when he failed to return from school.

Rikki did not go to Welland County primary school on the day he vanished, but staff there knew him as an occasional truant and assumed that he was at home with his mother.



Rikki: school thought he was playing truant

Medieval court blocks plan to give couple a bathroom

By DOMINIC KENNEDY

THE television presenter Esther Rantzen was yesterday in dispute with a medieval foresters' court over extending a cottage she gave to a homeless family.

The New Forest Verderers, who are responsible for protecting common land, have blocked a proposal to build a bathroom onto an old gatehouse at Ms Rantzen's farm, which she has given rent-free to Elizabeth Lawrence, her children's former nanny. Mrs Lawrence, 31, her husband Dean, 34, and their two daughters were invited to move in last August when

they had to sell their house because of financial problems. Without a bathroom, they have to wash in their daughters' bedroom or walk to Ms Rantzen's weekend farmhouse.

The extension would require 18ft by 9ft of common land so Ms Rantzen and her husband, the producer Desmond Wilcox, offered half an acre of their land to the verderers in return.

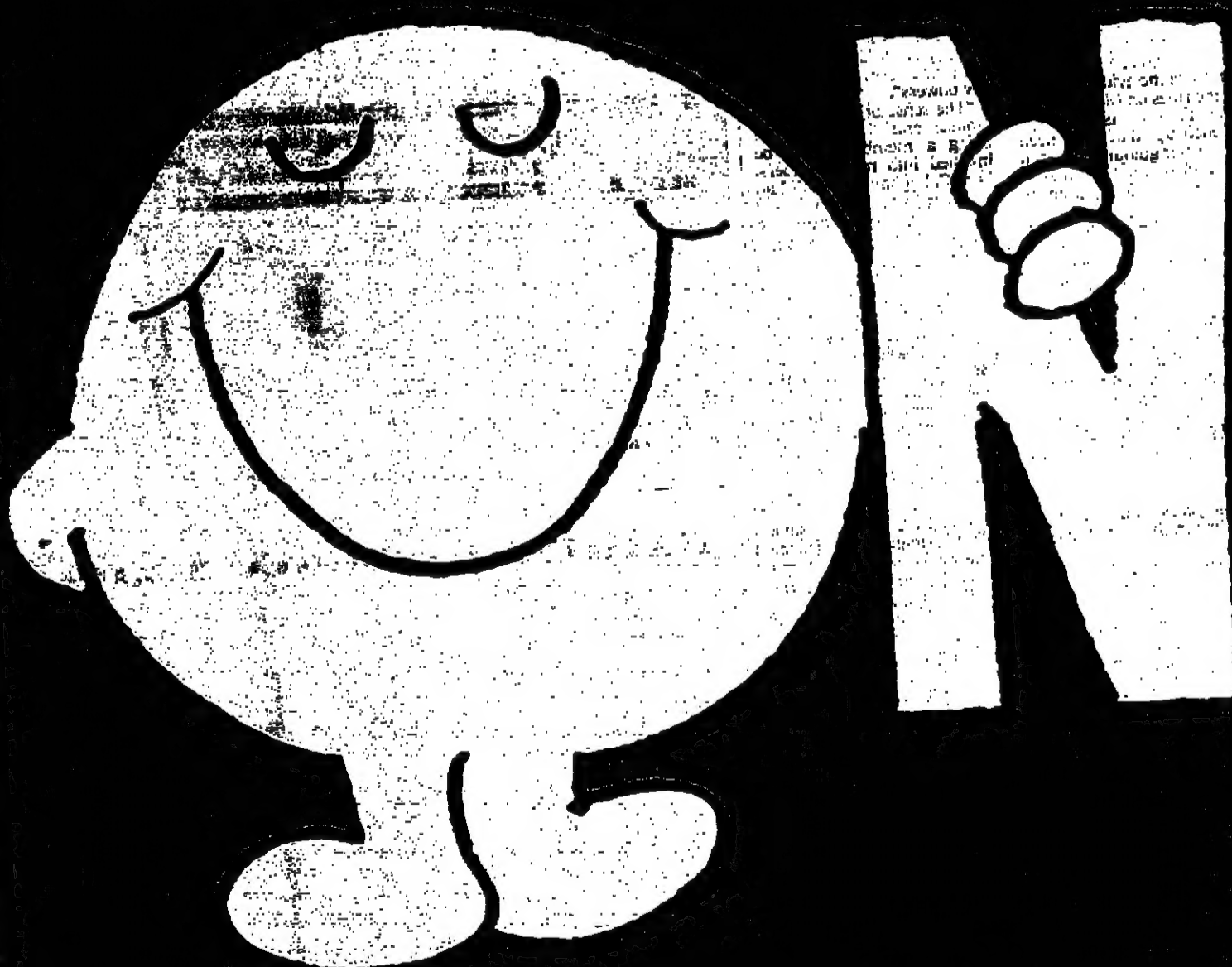
More than 100 villagers arrived at a meeting in Lyndhurst to give their opinions, but only to discover the plan had already been rejected by the

verderers at a private meeting.

The chairman of Bramshaw parish council in Hampshire, Jack Sturgess, said: "This decision was made without regard to anyone. We want to keep young families about the place so the village doesn't turn into a geriatric ward."

Ms Rantzen said she was amazed by the verderers' decision. John Barry, the Official Verderer, said the common land could be swapped only for unenclosed land. The plot offered by Ms Rantzen was enclosed.

A happy story on service and value.



There was once a business customer who spent over £1,200 a month on electricity. Someone just like you. But the service he got had turned him into Mr Miserable.

So he changed to London Electricity. And all at once he had more for his money. Such as a named electricity professional to manage his account. Specialist energy advice which told him about more efficient ways to use his electricity. Flexible billing to help his company's cash flow. And all kinds of things like enthusiasm, professionalism and competitive prices which give his story a very happy ending.

At London Electricity you'll find we take business customers very seriously indeed. Call us on 0345 83 83 83 and find out how to become Mr. Happy.

LONDON

GET ON TO LONDON 0345 83 83 83

LONDON ELECTRICITY

صباح الخير

Vauxhall Astra GTE

- Power windows
- Levers of heat
- Engine immobiliser
- Foldable rear seat
- Dust/pollen filter
- Mobile phone

£10,330

INC. £200* OPTIONAL EXTRA



£10,465

INC. £100* OPTIONAL EXTRA



Ford Escort

- Power windows
- Levers of heat
- Engine immobiliser
- Mobile phone

£10,175

INC. £415* OPTIONAL EXTRA



Volkswagen Golf

- Power windows
- Levers of heat
- Engine immobiliser
- Foldable rear seat
- Dust/pollen filter
- Mobile phone

£10,105



A penny for your thoughts.

The fact is, these days the latest range of Golfs costs less and offers more than you might think. Right on up to and including our VR6. Maybe it's time you got round to your local Volkswagen dealer. We wouldn't want you to sell yourself short.

RING 0800 333 666 FOR A BROCHURE AND DETAILS OF YOUR NEAREST DEALER. ABOVE PRICES TAKEN FROM MANUFACTURERS' PRICE LISTS EFFECTIVE AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS (22 DECEMBER, 1994) AND INCLUDE RECOMMENDED CHARGES FOR NUMBER PLATES AND DELIVERY BUT EXCLUDE ROAD FUND LICENCE.



Police warn
exporter for
crowd incite

Para whiffed w
checkpost loses

Girl survives tra

THE TIMES FRIDAY JANUARY 20 1995

Officers seek evidence against farmer after fresh clashes end in 21 arrests at Brightlingsea docks

Police warn sheep exporter for alleged crowd incitement

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

THE farmer organising livestock exports from the Essex port of Brightlingsea is under investigation for alleged incitement after a fourth day of ugly confrontations between police and demonstrators which led to 21 arrests.

Richard Oley, 27, whose business has galvanised a middle-class protest against the shipment of animals to the Continent for slaughter, was allegedly seen gesturing to the crowd as 1,200 sheep were taken into the docks under police escort. The Hummingdon-based farmer was warned by an officer in riot gear after he allegedly made V-signs, blew kisses and smirked at the protesters from the first of the three articulated lorries.

Assistant Chief Constable Geoffrey Markham said: "I am of the view that Mr Oley's presence is not conducive to good order and I am taking steps in that direction. He is under observation. If he has committed offences he will be dealt with in the same way as anyone else." An appeal for photographic evidence was made.

Mr Oley, who claims influence in the Conservative Association in the Prime Minister's constituency, said: "The more confrontation I get, the more determined I am to see this through." He is president of the British Association of Sheep Exporters and was fined last year at Dover for ill-



Markham: dismayed by breakdown in relations

treating animals in transit. The £7,000 fine was reduced on appeal to £3,000.

Yesterday the sheep lorries were seen through at 7.30am by 250 police, who are staying at a holiday centre in Clacton. The formed a spearhead formation to push through about 800 demonstrators, including children and elderly people, shortly after giving loudspeakers warnings to keep clear.

The lorries made their 200-yard journey past the cordon in a stop-start exercise that took 40 minutes. Women and children were forced away from pavements where they had previously been told to retreat. Eggs were thrown at the lorries and abuse hurled at Mr Oley, who has a six-month contract to export sheep to the Continent.

An ambulance was called for a person who needed treatment for shock and other people complained of minor injuries and accused the police of brutality. The 21 people arrested included Sue Wheeler, chair of Brightlingsea Against Live Exports (BALE).

The lorries, filled with bleating sheep and smelling strongly of urine, stood in the privately owned docks for more than four hours awaiting the arrival of the Danish ship *NV Caroline*. Gales prevented it from sailing to Newport, near Ostend, on the 2pm tide and the sheep were expected to remain in the hold overnight before their nine-hour journey.

Francesca da Silva, a BALE spokesperson, said: "We failed to stop Mr Oley today but the whole town is determined this trade will stop. We will be here every day for the next six months if necessary."

Mr Markham said that the force may have to seek assistance from other forces. The operation is estimated to have cost nearly £250,000 so far. He said: "I am quite dismayed by the breakdown in relations with the local community. This is a desperate situation and I haven't got many cards to play."

Ric Morgan, the Conservative mayor, disclosed yesterday that the council has taken legal advice in an attempt to ban the exports. He said: "We hope a ban might be possible on the grounds that it is unreasonable to remove the vitality and commerce of this town through this dreadful trade."

The British Veterinary Association said yesterday that protesters were making life worse for the animals. Bob Young, the vice-president, said: "We have heard that hundreds of animals are suffering from stress-induced and stress-related diseases, such as pneumonia, as a result of their journeys being prolonged by protests."

Labour yesterday demanded an immediate ban on the export of calves for rearing abroad in veal crates, and said the Government should compensate farmers.



Marjorie Gray confronts a policeman at the docks: "This is a tyrannical penalty against a small town. I have never felt so angry"

'A tyrannical penalty against a small town'

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

MARJORIE GRAY, an 85-year-old retired nurse with a lame leg, least heavily in protest against a 6ft 2in policeman in riot gear at the Brightlingsea dock gates, refusing to let the sheep pass.

Sheep Wars 1995 does not sit easily with the image of the Roman port

where the 7,000 law-abiding citizens normally prefer to mind their own business. Miss Gray said: "This is a tyrannical penalty against a small town which is protesting against the invasion of a horrible trade. I have never felt so angry."

Rosemary Caird, 48, said: "I no longer feel as though I am in England. It feels more as if I were in Chile or Uganda. I was proud of my police force. But now it's like a different country. They have forfeited

all goodwill." Denise Carby, 38, a mother of two, will lodge a complaint against police after an encounter with an officer whose number she took. "I was told to move back. He got his hand and just screwed it into my face until my neck was twisted to one side. These are bully-boy tactics."

Peter Watts, 40, said: "My daughter was kneced in the groin and her arm bent up behind her. She is a care assistant, 21 years old. I can scarcely believe the things I see in this quiet,

peaceful town." Fred Griffin, 61, a garment technologist who made a pre-retirement move to the town six months ago, said: "There are no militants here. I was standing on the pavement and I got squashed up against the wall by the police. They just punched their way through perfectly well behaved demonstrators." His wife Carol, 50, added: "They have been so brutal. The people of Brightlingsea will never trust the police again."



Brightlingsea: 'intolerable to remove the economic life of this town through this dreadful trade'

Para who killed woman at checkpoint loses appeal

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

A PARATROOPER jailed for life for murdering a teenager travelling in a joyrider's car in Northern Ireland lost his appeal against conviction yesterday. A unanimous judgment by five law lords dismissed the appeal by Private Lee Clegg, 26, who is serving his sentence in Wakefield jail, West Yorkshire.

The decision is a setback to the Parachute Regiment, which has been campaigning to have the conviction reduced to manslaughter. Officers said last night that the "fight for justice" would continue.

Julian Brazier, Conservative MP for Camberbury, said the judgment would cause great worry among soldiers in Northern Ireland. "I think it is a horrifying decision. We want a pardon for Private Clegg," Clegg, a member of 3 Battalion, was convicted at Belfast

Crown Court in 1993 of the murder of Karen Reilly, 18, from West Belfast. She died after he opened fire on a Vauxhall Astra car speeding through a checkpoint in the nationalist part of the city in September 1990.

Clegg maintained that he acted in self-defence when he opened fire, believing the car contained terrorists. In their judgment, the Law Lords said that while a person acting in self-defence or a police officer arresting an offender had a choice about the degree of force used, a soldier in Northern Ireland had "no scope for graduated force".

Lord Lloyd of Berwick said: "The only choice lay between firing a high-velocity rifle which, if aimed accurately, was almost certain to kill or injure, and doing nothing at all." There was no case in law

for reducing the conviction to manslaughter. Such a decision was a matter for legislation.

A spokesman for The Parachute Regiment said: "We are disappointed with the decision. The regiment will give every support it can through the necessary channels to obtain the release of one of our colleagues convicted of an offence while doing his duty."

Wyn Johnson, Clegg's mother, said: "We just can't believe what has happened. We will continue fighting for him."

Mary Reilly, Karen Reilly's mother, said last night from her home on the Twinbrook estate in West Belfast: "The last four years have been like an ongoing nightmare, but I'm glad it's all over. This was a good judgment, and now he's definitely not getting out."

Girl survives transplant

BY MARIANNE DARCH

A COUPLE who raised almost £1 million for a liver transplant centre after their three-year-old daughter developed the same liver condition that killed her sister heard yesterday that she had made a full recovery after a transplant operation.

Surgeons at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, said that Julie Maguire, now 13, was doing well. Her parents, Peter and Margaret, said she could be out within weeks. "For the first time in 13 years we have a daughter with rosy cheeks and a new life," they said.

The Maguires launched their ten-year fund-raising drive after their first daughter, Joanne, died of cirrhosis of the liver in 1980. "In those days there were no liver transplants for children. Nothing could be done for Joanne," said Mr Maguire, 48, who works for the Ministry of Defence in Gosport. Determined to help others,



Peter and Margaret Maguire with their daughter, Julie, who is recovering from a transplant operation

they set up a charity to buy equipment for the transplant centre at Addenbrooke's. Their hopes were boosted in 1984 when Ben Hardwick became the first child to receive a liver at the hospital. Now the unit performs an average of 25 transplants a year.

Sue Falvey, the hospital's transplant co-ordinator said:

"The money raised by their charity enables us to buy new equipment that the NHS can't afford."

Mr Maguire said the campaign would go on. "The transplant unit will always need more money," he said. "We will carry on for all the parents who are going through what we have been through with Julie."

Sale ends 22 Jan.

in all stores



habitat

Please telephone 0645 334433 for your nearest store

Confusion over security service's expanding role as chief constables announce £1.5bn drug haul

Police challenge MI5 drug crime ambitions

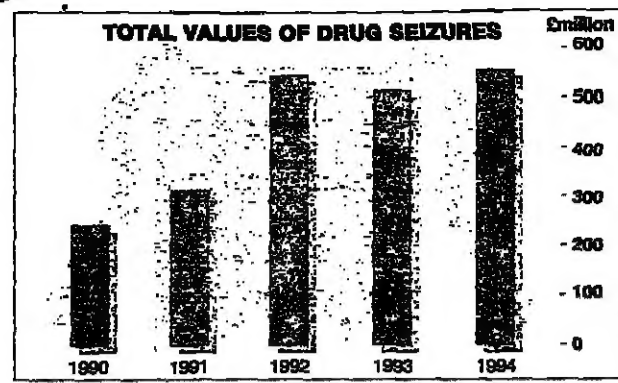
By Stewart Tendler
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

CHIEF constables are at odds with Stella Rimington, Director-General of MI5, over the security service's ambitions to move into investigating drug trafficking and international crime.

Keith Hellawell, Chief Constable of West Yorkshire and chairman of a chief constables' committee on drugs, said yesterday that senior officers needed "clarification" of MI5's position over expansion into traditional police work.

The conflict surfaced yesterday after it was announced that illegal drugs worth nearly £1.5 billion had been seized or stopped from reaching Britain's streets last year by Customs and police operations against hundreds of trafficking gangs.

Mr Hellawell, speaking at the announcement of the drugs figures, said he had been "slightly surprised" by Mrs Rimington's comment at a recent lecture to police that MI5 hoped to undertake drugs and international crime work. He said that last spring, in a



speech to chief constables, she had given an assurance that MI5 would not become involved in such work.

Some senior police officers believe MI5, faced with the possibility of demands for sharp manpower cuts as Irish terrorism diminishes, has already begun making soundings in Whitehall. MI5 sources have confirmed that they could be interested in investigating drug trafficking and international crime. Three years ago MI5 won a behind-the-scenes battle with police over the lead role in terrorist intelligence work, especially

concerning the IRA and loyalist groups. The Secret Intelligence Service, MI6, liaises with Customs officers on drugs investigations abroad. It may also face job cuts and may want to claim some of the work.

Bill Taylor, Commissioner of the City of London Police and head of a chief constables' committee on crime policy, is to approach Mrs Rimington for more details of what she has in mind.

At the announcement of the drugs figures for 1994, Dick Kellaway, head of Customs investigations, said 51 tonnes

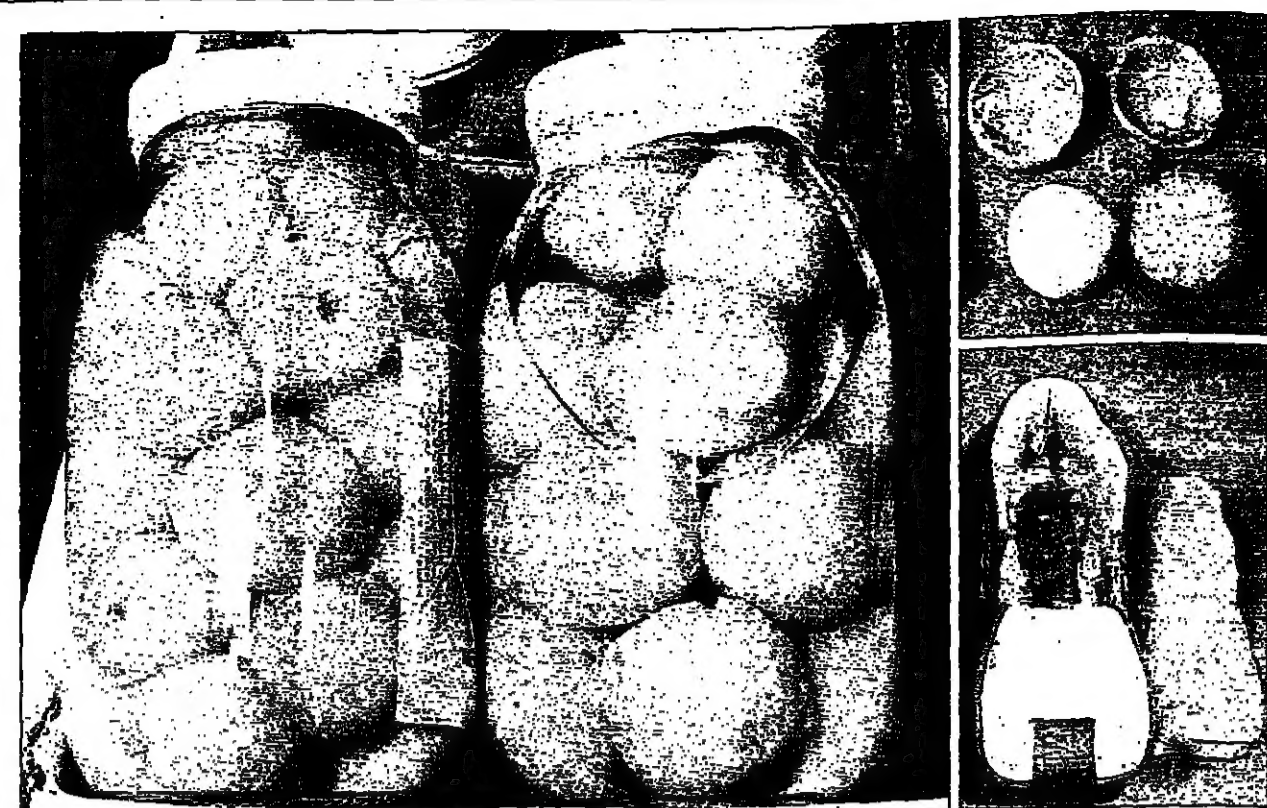
of drugs worth £550 million had been discovered. The operations and arrests disrupted 214 drug gangs and prevented drugs worth another £900 million reaching this country. Intelligence passed on to other countries had led to the seizure of drugs worth £353 million.

Mr Kellaway said that trafficking continued to escalate, although the success of counter-operations had forced South American networks to avoid Britain and take greater precautions.

David Heathcoat-Amory, the Paymaster-General, said fears over the relaxation of border controls in the Single Market had proved unfounded. Intelligence and investigation work had been effective. Last year 40 per cent of drugs came via the European Union, similar to previous years.

There was a huge rise in cocaine seizures, up from 679 kg in 1993 to 2,205 kg. The total was lower than the record of 2,250 kg in 1992, but that was set after several large consignments had been discovered.

Mr Kellaway said there was evidence that traffickers realised that Britain



Smugglers use ingenious methods to try to import drugs. The jar above left contains peaches; the other is filled with artificial fruit containing cocaine, top right. The inner sole of the training shoe, bottom right, conceals heroin

was a high-risk destination for drugs. Couriers were paid more to smuggle the drugs into Britain than for other countries.

Traffickers were trying to take advantage of the weakness of defences in Eastern Europe. One consignment of

1.19 tonnes of cocaine found on a ship bound for Poland would have eventually been smuggled west overland. About 350 kg was found in jars of peaches and figs en route to the Czech Republic.

There was a record seizure of heroin totalling 620 kg, up

2.3 per cent from 1993. South-west Asia remains the main source, via Turkey. The heroin was worth £57 million on the street, and equivalent to 280 million medical doses.

The haul of synthetic drugs such as Ecstasy and LSD totalled 1,183 kg last year, a

rise of 2.5 per cent. Cannabis seizures were down slightly to 47,000 kg, although Mr Kellaway said the record figure for 1993 was distorted by one single large seizure of 17 tonnes and the 1994 figures included 10 tonnes found at Felixstowe.

Listeners attack BBC for shelving radio services

By Alexandra Frean, Media Correspondent

BBC Radio 4 is to drop its Sunday morning church services for a month despite protests from some listeners. Rachel Mawhood, of the listeners' organisation Radio 4 Watch, said yesterday that she was dismayed at the BBC's decision to replace services with a religious affairs discussion programme during February. Ms Mawhood, who helped to lead the successful listeners' campaign in 1993 against BBC plans to axe Radio 4 Long Wave, said: "There is not much that is specifically religious on BBC radio. It is as if the people at the BBC want to get on the secular or humanist bandwagon."

Last month it emerged that the corporation was considering opening the *Thought for the Day* slot on Radio 4's Today programme to humanists. It was also disclosed that the Rev Ernest Rea, head of religious broadcasting, is preparing a report for John Birt, the Director-General, examining the possibility of humanist broadcasts.

Morning Service is broadcast on Radio 4 every Sunday at 9.30am. The 45-minute programme complements the 15-minute *Daily Service* that goes out at 10am on weekdays. After *The Archers* omnibus and the news, *Morning Service* is Radio 4's most popular Sunday programme, attracting an average of more

than 1.3 million listeners. Jocelyn Hay, of the Voice of the Listener and Viewer, said that the Sunday and weekday services were enormously important to a large number of listeners, many housebound, who arranged their days around the broadcasts.

"BBC mandarins have been surprised over the years at the steadiness and even the growth in the audience for these broadcasts. I understand that they might feel there is a demand for an alternative religious programme, but it seems a pity that they could not find another slot for it," she said. Hosted by the award-win-



Janey Lee Grace: hosts ITV religious show

ning broadcaster Rosemary Hurrell, *Were You There?*, which is temporarily replacing *Morning Service*, will run for four weeks from February 5. It will tackle emotional and practical issues common to human experience. The first programme deals with how people balance work and play.

Claire Campbell-Smith, the programme's producer, said: "We hope to do occasional series, the aim of which is to offer something to our religious listeners but also to interest those who are less inclined towards traditional services." She said *Morning Service* would be back in March and that a *Were You There?* series during Lent last year had won the Sandford St Martin Award and was popular with listeners.

Radio 4's aim to increase the accessibility of its religious programmes mirrors similar efforts by television broadcasters who fear that core audiences for these programmes may be dying out.

ITV recently launched *Sunday Brunch*, a morning magazine hosted by Janey Lee Grace, a pop singer and late-night disc jockey with Richard Branson's radio station Virgin 1215. BBC's new rival magazine *Heart and Soul* is hosted by the pop star David Grant.

Leading article, page 19

Newspaper labelled Sultan with tax slur

By Frances Gibb

A FORMER king of Malaysia was awarded undisclosed damages in the High Court yesterday against a newspaper that claimed he was among "mega rich" foreign monarchs who don't pay a penny in taxes on their companies in Britain.

The *Daily Mirror* paid compensation believed to run to five figures and costs to Sultan Azlan Shah, hereditary ruler of the Malaysian state of Perak and a former Chief Justice and Lord President of Malaysia. He had sued over an article that appeared in 1993 that said: "If he and a few other mega rich foreign monarchs were liable to the same rules as everyone else, the Government would not need to put VAT on fuel." Reference was made to extravagant lifestyles.

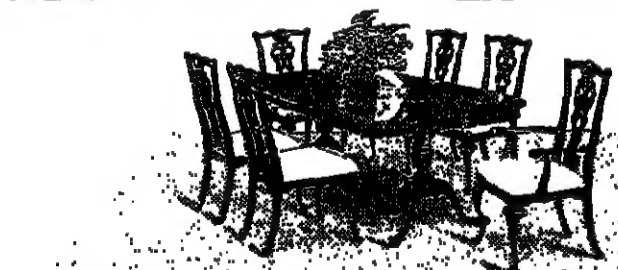
Peter Carter-Ruck, for the sultan, told Mr Justice Drake that the newspaper now acknowledged that the sultan did not claim sovereign immunity in respect of his taxes in this country; did not own a Gulf Stream jet or go on shopping sprees to Beverly Hills; and did not play roulette or own any racehorses. Harvey Starke, counsel for the *Daily Mirror*, said the newspaper accepted the allegations were without foundation.

MAPLES SALE PLUS 2 YEARS INTEREST FREE CREDIT*



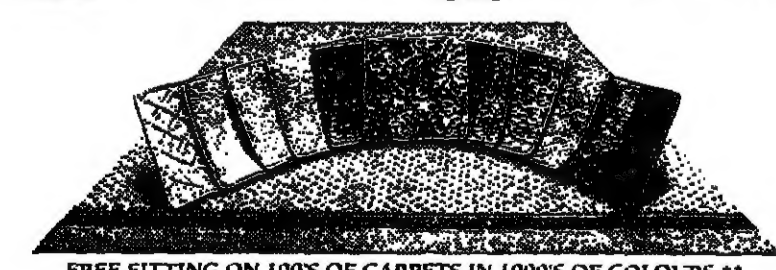
CHELSEA UPHOLSTERY COLLECTION - with machine washable covers
Our huge range of modern and traditional upholstery collections, all available in a choice of fabrics from £799 to £3500

3 PIECE SUITE PREVIOUS PRICE £2999 SALE PRICE £1499 3 SEATER SOFA PREVIOUS PRICE £1499 SALE PRICE £799



BRIGHTON HALL DINING COLLECTION
From the latest modern Italian designs, traditional hand carved reproduction cabinet furniture from 1699 to £2000

DINING TABLE AND 4 CHAIRS PREVIOUS PRICE £1599 SALE PRICE £1599 CHINA DISPLAY CABINET PREVIOUS PRICE £1399 SALE PRICE £1399



FREE FITTING ON 100'S OF CARPETS IN 1000'S OF COLOURS...
LOWEST PRICES GUARANTEED LET US ESTIMATE AND PROVE IT.

MAPLES STAINFREE CASABLANCA 100% WOOL 12'x14' PREVIOUS PRICE £2399 SALE PRICE £1599 MAPLES CLASSIC TWIST (cotton made only with any colour) 12'x14' PREVIOUS PRICE £1599 SALE PRICE £1399 MAPLES WOOL BERBER 100% WOOL 12'x14' PREVIOUS PRICE £2399 SALE PRICE £1599

HALF PRICE SAVINGS

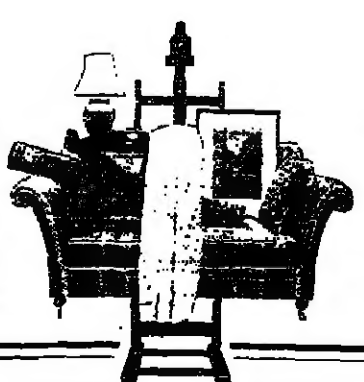
EVERY ITEM. EVERY SINGLE ITEM. EVERY SINGLE ITEM IN EVERY SINGLE STORE. REDUCED.

OPEN SUNDAY 11AM - 5PM

EXTRA HALF PRICE SAVINGS

WE WILL NOT BE BEATEN ON PRICE

Why shop around when we guarantee the lowest price? That's a promise backed up by our money back guarantee. Subject to the same terms and conditions of sale.



CALL YOUR LOCAL STORE ON 0345 585851

BIRMINGHAM BOURNEMOUTH BRIGHTON BROMLEY BRISTOL CARDIFF CHESTER DARTFORD DUNDEE EDINBURGH GLASGOW LEEDS LEICESTER LONDON OXFORD SOUTHAMPTON SOUTHPORT WATFORD WORTHINGTON

THE FINE ART OF FURNISHING

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

Dealer North Love all

♠ J10854	♥ A Q 6 3	♦ K 9 2	♣ Q 2
♠ 9 7 5 3	♥ K 8 7	♦ A J 8 6 4	♣ K J 6 4
♠ 10 9 8 7 2	♥ A Q 9 4 2	♦ Q 5	♣ 10 7 3

Contract: South plays Four Hearts Doubled. Opening lead: ♠ 7

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN
BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

This is a hand from last month's England-Wales match. When England were North-South the declarer failed in Four Hearts after a spade lead. The Welsh declarer, John Clubb, was doubled by East after West had overcalled in spades. He received the more helpful lead of a diamond from West.

At first sight the contract appears to be easy: with only three potential losers: one in clubs and two in the trump suit. But that does not mean that there are ten easy winners available. Because of the strength of North-South's trump intermediates, it looks as if a cross-ruff could be a possible route to success. It is set in stone that when you are planning to embark on a cross-ruff, you should first establish and then cash, any side-suit winners.

Following this principle, after winning the ten of dia-

KEENE on CHESS

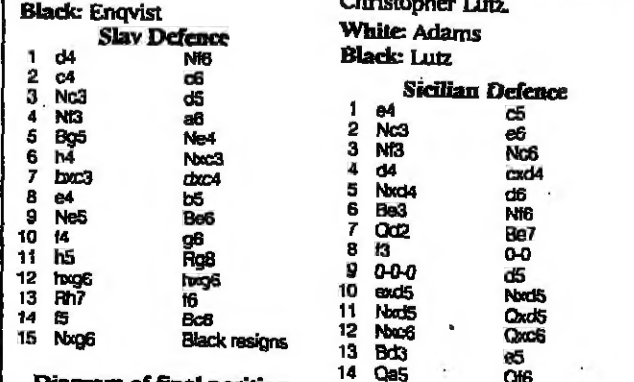
BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Resignation puzzle
In the fourth round of the international tournament in Causal, Norway, the Australian grandmaster Ian Rogers won a startling miniature game in 15 moves. Rogers shares the lead with London player Andrew Kinsman.

White: Rogers
Black: Enqvist

Slav Defence

1 d4	Nf6
2 c4	c5
3 Nc3	d5
4 Nf3	e6
5 Bg5	Nc6
6 N4	Nc3
7 bxc3	dxc4
8 e4	b5
9 Ne5	g6
10 f4	g5
11 h5	Rg8
12 hxe6	fxe6
13 Rh7	h6
14 B	Bc8
15 Ng6	Black resigns



In this position Black's resignation seems somewhat premature. A prize of a six-month subscription to the *British Chess Magazine* for the best explanation of why Black resigned (instead of playing on with 15... fxe5), to reach mate at The Times by January 26.

Adams out
The British grandmaster Michael Adams failed to join Nigel Short in the quarter-finals of the knockout tournament in Wijk aan Zee, Holland, losing to Germany's Christopher Lutz.

White: Adams
Black: Lutz

Sicilian Defence

1 e4	c5
2 Nc3	e6
3 Nf3	Nc6
4 d4	cxd4
5 Nxd4	Nf6
6 Bg5	h6
7 Qd2	Be7
8 f3	O-O
9 O-O-O	d5
10 exd5	Nxd5
11 Nc6	Qxd5
12 Nc3	Qxd5
13 Bc3	e5
14 Qe5	Oe6
15 h4	b6
16 Qe4	Bb7
17 Bg5	Qe6
18 Be7	Qxe7
19 Bc4	Bxe4
20 Qe4	fxe4
21 Q3	e5
22 Qc4+	Q7
23 Qd7+	Kd7
24 Rxd8	Rxd8
25 Rd1	Rxd1+
26 Kc1	b5
27 Kd2	Kd6
28 b3	Kd5
29 Kd3	a6
30 Kc3	a4
31 h5	b4

White resigns

Winning Move, page 44

THE TIMES FRIDAY JANUARY 20 1995

Car-free zones proposed to cut pollutants linked with cancer and breathing difficulties

Gummer unveils plan to improve nation's air quality

By NICK NUTTALL
ENVIRONMENT
CORRESPONDENT

CAR-FREE zones will soon be declared in Britain's cities, under a strategy to improve air quality announced by John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, yesterday.

Councils are to be required to draw up air-quality management plans detailing how they will tackle local pollution and blackspots. Mr Gummer also announced that there would be national targets, to be met by 2005, for nine pollutants, including benzene and oxides of nitrogen which have been linked with cancer and breathing difficulties.

Mr Gummer has angered environmentalists by not setting limits for ozone, a pollutant linked with smog, breathing difficulties and asthma attacks. The Government claims that much of the ozone that forms over Britain is blown from the Continent, and that the European Community needs to take tougher action against it. However, Fiona Weir, of Friends of the Earth, said the omission reflected government concern that a standard for ozone



Gummer: to set no limit for ozone levels.

proposed last year by the Environment Department's own advisers could not be met by industry and car-makers. The air-quality plans, to be drafted by 1997, are expected to 'advocate' pedestrian-only areas, speed restrictions, and involving businesses. Tim Brown, of the National Society for Clean Air, said firms could be encouraged to restrict parking and replace company cars with free passes for public transport. The plans may also include

last-resort measures to ban cars and lorries on roads where pollution is notorious, because of heavy traffic, high buildings and weather conditions. The Department of the Environment said yesterday that councils had powers under the Road Traffic Regulations Act 1984 to close roads. Officials believe that the powers could be applied at times of persistently poor air quality.

Similar powers are held by the Government to restrict traffic on trunk roads and motorways, but Mr Gummer said they would not be needed. He said the planning system would achieve reductions in fumes, by promoting schemes that reduce car travel and put offices, homes, and facilities at the hub of public transport networks.

Mr Gummer said that meanwhile air quality was being improved by stricter emissions tests and the introduction of catalytic converters on vehicles.

Steven Norris, the junior transport minister, said: "We believe that by 2005 we will see carbon monoxide levels falling by 65 per cent, volatile organic compounds including benzene falling by 86 per cent and



By 2005, carbon monoxide levels on roads are predicted to fall 65 per cent and benzene levels by 86 per cent

oxide of nitrogen by 66 per cent." Mr Gummer said councils would be given computer links to government monitoring stations so they could issue more accurate pollution alerts.

New legislation will be needed for some of the strategy including local authority air-quality management plans. Mr Brown said it was needed urgently if the 2005 targets were to be met. The Department of Trade

and Industry's deregulation unit and the Treasury have been worried that new powers for councils could increase red tape for business. Their delaying tactics have made it difficult for Mr Gummer to find a slot for the necessary legislation. But the Environment Secretary is expected to score a political victory over trade and industry officials by endorsing an amendment backed by the National Society for Clean Air to the Environmental Agen-

cies Bill. The amendment, which would bring in air-quality laws is currently before the House of Lords. Mr Gummer said yesterday that he welcomed the specific air-quality initiatives proposed by London councils under a separate Bill before Parliament, for the capital. It contains provisions for council staff to test and issue fines for polluting vehicles.

Some clean-air campaigners, local councils and health

groups welcomed the announcement of the national strategy. But the Association of London Authorities said that it would require additional funding to be effective. Westminster council installed the first kerbside monitor for vehicle exhaust soot particles in Oxford Street last month and it is undergoing trials. The council uses a laser to monitor background pollution and is shortly to issue daily predictions of levels.

Solicitor 'banker' in mortgage swindle

A CROOKED solicitor acted as the "banker" in a multi-million-pound mortgage fraud involving scores of properties across southern England, a court was told yesterday. Some of the illegally raised cash was used to help to develop a museum dedicated to Sherlock Holmes.

Much of the four-year swindle was carried out in the late 1980s, at the height of the property boom. Since then at least £7 million of the fraudsters' gains had disappeared without trace.

Charles Miskin, for the prosecution, told the sentencing hearing at Wood Green Crown Court, north London, that one objective was to create a string of properties to rent out. David Sachs, 50, of Stowmarket, Suffolk, who used to run a sole practice in Kensington, played a leading role in the swindle, which involved bogus identities, multiple applications on the same property and fictional references. Sachs has admitted two counts of plotting to defraud.

In the dock with Sachs was John Akianantz, 37, of Belgrave, London, convicted of obtaining £1.2 million by deception. Also before the court were William Eaglen, 46, another solicitor, convicted of plotting to defraud, and John Skok, 35, and Liam Leroy, 36, who both admitted similar counts. The hearing continues.

'League table' for fertility clinics

By JEREMY LAURANCE

SUCCESS rates for fertility clinics are to be published after pressure from patients' groups worried that some centres were concealing their figures.

The decision has been taken by the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority. Success rates among the 116 clinics that it has licensed vary from 4 per cent live births per cycle of treatment to more than 21 per cent. A cycle of treatment typically costs £2,000-£2,500. Most patients have more than one attempt and some require a dozen or more.

Yesterday the authority issued a consultation paper on how the information is to be published to ensure it is clear to patients and fair to clinics. Some clinics take older patients or those with more difficult problems, so the authority proposes an adjusted rate. The first success rates, to be published next summer, will be published in 1993, will be published next summer. Ruth Deech, the newly appointed chairwoman of the authority, said: "The information is there and it seems wrong not to publish it."

The overall success rate of clinics rose from 8.6 per cent live births per cycle of treatment in 1985 to 13.8 per cent in 1991 but dipped in 1992 to 12.7 per cent. The natural rate of conception is 20 per cent per cycle.

Switch-on at first solar power office block

By PAUL WILKINSON

BRITAIN'S only solar-powered office block was formally switched on yesterday, with computers, lifts, lights and fans powered by energy generated from 450 panels mounted on its outside walls.

Only on particularly dull days will the National Grid help out at the University of Northumbria's computer centre in Newcastle upon Tyne. Its creators expect that during the summer vacation the system will produce more power than required and the surplus can be fed into the rest of the campus.

The £15 million solar refit of the 1960s Northumberland Building is the high point in 20 years' work by Professor Bob Hill, 57, head of the university's photo-voltaics applications centre. Yesterday he predicted that by 2020 solar-powered buildings would be common.

Prof Hill believes that by setting up such a system in a region not noted for its sunshine, he will silence critics who claim solar power can never be successful in Britain's climate. "We know that it will work but proving it is another thing," he said.

Prof Hill said that as the cost of solar cells dropped their use would increase, making them affordable to all companies by the start of the next century.

Storms drive up price of fish

By ROBIN BARNWELL

A WEEK of storms is putting pressure on fish prices. Fresh cod and haddock are selling from £3.20 to £3.40 a lb for large fillets and whiting from £1 to £1.80 a lb. Brill is available from around £3 a lb and Dover sole £5 a lb. Native oysters, however, are well priced at around 50p a shell. Vegetable bargains include Spanish onions at 35p to 45p a lb; English Brussels sprouts at 20p to 40p a lb; and French golden delicious apples at 35p to 52p a lb.

Advised best buys include:

Asda: Fresh turkey breast steaks £1.79 a lb; English red dessert apples 65p a 2lb pack; braising steak £1.75 a lb; 800g granary loaf 55p. Budget: Fresh chicken legs £1.69 a 2lb 4oz pack; vanilla dairy ice cream 69p a litre; 400g low fat sausages 99p. Co-op: 600g Kellogg's Rice Krispies £1.69; 680g Pommes Noisettes 57p; fresh minced beef 99p a lb; 200g low fat soft cheese 59p. Harrods: 100g Serrano ham £2.95; Caboc cheese £2.50 each; heart-shaped mousse de la mer £6.65 each; salmon tartare £5.20 each. Iceland: 20 beefburgers £3.29; pepperoni pizza £1.49; 30 cod

bites 99p; mandarin cheese cake £1.49. Marks and Spencer: Boiled British gammon £5.99 a lb; 600g fresh fruit salad £1.99; 240 extra strong tea bags £2.99; 10 crumpets 42p; chicken breast plate pie £2.65. Sainsbury: 454g lean mince beef £1.78; 454g Cumberland sausage 74p; red and white Bulgarian country wine £2.09. Sainsbury: 400g wafer thin turkey and ham £1.49; 200ml half fat crème fraîche 59p; 1kg

WEEKEND SHOPPING

broccoli £1.49; 3 250ml orange/apple fruit juices 79p; 1kg porridge oats 55p. Somerfield: Fresh pork loin chops £1.09 a lb; 500g prepacked tomatoes 55p; 295g Heinz weightwatchers' beef lasagne 99p; 400g shortcake biscuits 34p. Tesco: White seedless grapes £1.49 a lb; 454g Lincolnshire sausages 99p; 1kg pack of cooking onions 59p; stewing steak £1.68 a lb. Waitrose: Scotch beef diced braising steak £2.69 a lb; three British pork loin steaks £1.69; 250g dwarf corn £1.49; trout fillets £3.59 a lb.

Currys

SALE

SAVE UP TO 50%

Motorola Mobile Phone

Battery strength blepper and indicator. Volume control adjusts both ringer and speech volumes. 10 number memory. Last number redial. Model PERSONAL. Was £39.99.

SALE PRICE
£29.99

*When you connect to any Collect Airtime Service

Motorola Mobile Phone

Security lock. 20 number memory with speed dial. Model 'FLIP'. Was £79.99.

SALE PRICE
£59.99

*When you connect to any Collect Airtime Service

SAISHO 2-Piece Phone

LCD display. Last number redial. Wall mountable. Model 350. Was £29.99.

SALE PRICE
£14.99

HALF PRICE

Motorola Mobile Phone

99 number/name memory. Call timer facility. Backlit display and keypad. Security lock. Model CM-H444. Was £119.99.

SALE PRICE
£99.99

*When you connect to any Collect Airtime Service

SONY Integrated Telephone/Answering Machine

Remote message retrieval. Last number redial. 13 number memory. Model IT-A255. Was £79.99.

SALE PRICE
£69.99

SAVE £10

SONY Mobile Phone

99 number/name memory. Call timer facility. Backlit display and keypad. Security lock. Model CM-H444. Was £119.99.

SALE PRICE
£99.99

*When you connect to any Collect Airtime Service

BT Answering Machine

Day and time stamp. Remote access and audible message indicator. Call screening function. Model RESPONSE 50. Was £59.99.

SALE PRICE
£49.99

SAVE £10

SAISON 2-Piece Phone

LCD display. Last number redial. Wall mountable. Model 350. Was £29.99.

SALE PRICE
£14.99

HALF PRICE

SONY 2-Piece Phone

Stylish gondola design. 13 number memory. Last number redial. Volume control. Model ITB4. Was £24.99.

SALE PRICE
£21.99

SAVE £3

SAISON 2-Piece Phone

LCD display. Last number redial. Wall mountable. Model 350. Was £29.99.

SALE PRICE
£14.99

HALF PRICE

SONY 2-Piece Phone

Stylish gondola design. 13 number memory. Last number redial. Volume control. Model ITB4. Was £24.99.

SALE PRICE
£21.99

SAVE £3

SAISON 2-Piece Phone

LCD display. Last number redial. Wall mountable. Model 350. Was £29.99.

SALE PRICE
£14.99

HALF PRICE

SONY 2-Piece Phone

Stylish gondola design. 13 number memory. Last number redial. Volume control. Model ITB4. Was £24.99.

SALE PRICE
£21.99

SAVE £3

SAISON 2-Piece Phone

LCD display. Last number redial. Wall mountable. Model 350. Was £29.99.

SALE PRICE
£14.99

HALF PRICE

SONY 2-Piece Phone

Stylish gondola design. 13 number memory. Last number redial. Volume control. Model ITB4. Was £24.99.

SALE PRICE
£21.99

SAVE £3

HALF PRICE

MOBILE PHONE WITH THIS VOUCHER

HURRY! 3 DAYS ONLY

SANYO Mobile Phone
100 number memory. On-screen help menu. Model CMF351E. Was £139.99. Was £109.99. In-store Price £79.99. *SUPERSTORES ONLY.

HALF PRICE
£64.99

*When you connect to any Collect Airtime Service. One voucher per purchase. Not for use with other offers. Offer valid Sunday 22nd January 1995. Discount taking Code 4 (Black One offer).

Currys DISCOUNT VOUCHER

PANASONIC

Mobile Phone
99 number memory. Volume control. Last number redial. Includes rapid charger. Model 'J Series'. Was £99.99.

SAVE
£20

SALE PRICE
£79.99

*When you connect to any Collect Airtime Service

SONY

Mobile Phone
99 number/name memory. Call timer facility. Backlit display and keypad. Security lock. Model CM-H444. Was £119.99.

SAVE
£20

SALE PRICE
£99.99

*When you connect to any Collect Airtime Service

Currys

OVER 100 SUPERSTORES NATIONWIDE WITH LATE NIGHT AND SUNDAY OPENING. EASY PARKING. PLUS CONVENIENT HIGH STREET STORES. RING 081 200 0230 FOR DETAILS OF YOUR NEAREST STORE.

SALE
£10

Currys

SALE
£10

صوتنا من الامل



Several degrees

Try Kellogg's All-Bran with hot milk.

A warm, nourishing breakfast with more fibre than

more fibre.

any other leading brand of cereal.



The great fibre provider.

Tory rebels
after manifi

Lack of
blame
view

March
on

THE TIMES FRIDAY JANUARY 20 1995

Indecision remains over Britain's role in the EU

Tory rebels in disarray after manifesto launch

By Jill Sherman
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

EIGHT of the whipless Tory Euro-rebels launched a manifesto yesterday aimed at reshaping the party's agenda on Europe, but they were split over the best way forward.

The rebels, who are demanding a removal of power from Brussels, said that the Tories would lose the next general election unless they changed tack on Europe.

The proposals include disbanding the European Parliament, rejecting monetary union, restricting the powers of the European Union and abolishing the common fisheries policy and common agricultural policy.

Although the objectives appear entirely at odds with membership of the European Union, the rebels were split over whether they wanted Britain to pull out altogether. Many of the rebels also felt that the public should be consulted over Europe but the group was divided on

WHAT THE DOCUMENT SAYS

- Scrap the principle of economic and monetary union and allow each nation to manage its own economic policies
- Replace the European Parliament with a European Assembly of MPs nominated by national parliaments
- Stop European Union treaties covering foreign affairs and defence
- End the right of the European Court to intervene in national policies
- Curtail the EU budget and end all interventionist subsidies
- Tackle the Common Agricultural Policy by restoring responsibility for agriculture to national governments
- Replace the Common Fisheries Policy with a similar shift of responsibility to member states
- Allow member states to ban export of live animals

whether a referendum should be held.

The MPs vehemently denied that they wished to bring down the Government despite having voted against it on fishing policy 12 hours earlier. They were not trying to "bash" the Government, merely to offer suggestions for improvement, the MPs said. But they also made clear that they were in no hurry to have the whip restored.

Tony Marlow said: "Unless the Conservative Party gets its policies right on Europe, the

Conservative Government will not be re-elected at the next general election. Our aim, our objective is to see a Conservative victory at the next election."

Eight of the nine whipless rebels signed up to the 1,000-word manifesto: Teresa Gorman, Sir Richard Body, Christopher Gill, Richard Shepherd, Sir Teddy Taylor, John Wilkinson, Tony Marlow and Nicholas Budgen.

Michael Cardis, the remaining whipless MP, did not take part in yesterday's event

and has not attended any of the rebels' recent meetings. Nicholas Budgen was a reluctant participant.

On Wednesday Mr Budgen signalled that he would not attend the press conference but he changed his mind after deciding he wanted to put his views across. Some of the rebels are privately concerned that their colleagues may want to go too far in trying to loosen ties with Europe.

The manifesto argues that the aim of the negotiations for the 1996 inter-governmental conference should be to seek "substantial repatriation of decision making". If this proved impossible "our aim should be to seek a separate relationship with the EU, possibly on the basis of free trade and friendship only". The MPs add: "We should also make it clear that the UK will in no circumstances agree to further EU funding until progress is made."

The rebels claimed the support of most Tory MPs, party members and the public. John



Wilkinson said: "We believe we represent the majority of the people of this country. We have been overwhelmed by the expressions of support which we have received."

Mr Marlow said that there was no democratic consent for the Government's present stance on Europe. "We are out of touch with people. The tide

of European federalism has got to go back."

Sir Teddy Taylor insisted that the rebels were not a party within a party and denied that they thought the European issue was more important than maintaining a Tory Government.

Robin Cook, the Shadow Foreign Secretary, also ex-

ploded their action. "John Major will never command the respect of the country when he is treated with contempt by Conservative MPs," he said. "He offered his rebels an olive branch and today they snapped it in two."

Leading article and Letters, page 19

Lack of candour blurs fantastic view of Europe

The Tory Euro-rebels are trying to have the best of both worlds — and they are getting away with it. They want to engage in the Tory party debate over European policy and have the freedom to rebel. Only hours after seven of the nine MPs without the whip voted against the Government on fisheries, they produced a policy paper or manifesto totally incompatible with Britain's continued membership of the European Union.

But yesterday both John Major and Tory business managers offered a remarkably tolerant response. There was no rebuke and no hint that the rebels' conduct had made it harder for them to have the whip restored. Rather, the impression was that the Government is desperate for them to return to the fold as quickly as possible. No wonder, Tory pro-Europeans are increasingly worried about the Prime Minister's tilt in a Euro-sceptic direction. But many Tory MPs are keen for the rift to end soon now they think they have forced Labour on the defensive.

Reversing what turns out to have been a tactical mistake over removal of the Tory whip may make sense. But there will be a price if the Tory rebels appear to have won. Not only can the Government not afford repeated revolts like the one on Wednesday evening, but the rebels' views would split the party and the Government apart. Their manifesto, heavily influenced by Sir Teddy Taylor, has echoes of the "impossibilist" demands of the Trotskyite Militant Tendency in the 1980s. The group's eight aims for European policy range from repatriation of agricultural and fisheries policy, via scrapping of economic and monetary union, to stopping the European Court from intervening in national policies — amount to a dismantling of the present European Union. Their demands would in effect tear up not only the Maastricht Treaty but also the Treaty of Rome.

The rebel MPs claim to be speaking for a large number of people in the Tory party and in the country. They probably do echo widespread

HIDDEN ON POLITICS

public frustrations about Brussels interference. But despite their claims to honesty and clarity, and the long-standing hostility of many to British participation in the European Union, their manifesto blurs the implications. It is a fantasy to pretend that the rest of the EU would ever agree to "substantial repatriation of decision making". The document states that "if such an endeavour should prove to be impossible, our national aim should be to seek a separate relationship with the EU, possibly on the basis of free trade and friendship only". That in practice means withdrawal and the Euro-rebels should have been candid enough to admit as much. Faced with such a choice, even in a referendum, my hunch is that the British public would again vote in favour of entry.

Differences within the group emerged at the news conference. Some take absolutist positions. Others, notably Nicholas Budgen, are more cautious. He does not expect all the manifesto aims to be achieved. What he wanted was looser relations between Britain and the rest of Europe and for the Cabinet to clarify its position after Mr Major's comments that he would veto any major constitutional changes at the inter-governmental conference next year. The rebels have a point when they argue that Mr Major's latest position of "thus far and no further" on constitutional changes is inconsistent with the views of most European leaders.

Sir Teddy Taylor, Richard Shepherd, Tony Marlow and the others have strongly held views on the issue. They are widely shared. But there is a danger of pretending that their views can be encompassed within Mr Major's general formula. They cannot. He is not doing his party any favours in the long term if he fails to point out the drastic, and divisive, implications of the Euro-rebels' manifesto.

PETER RIDDELL

Mayhew stays silent on secret deal claim

By Jonathan Prynne, Political Reporter

THE Northern Ireland Secretary faced hostile questioning in the Commons yesterday when he refused six times to deny that the Government had forged a secret deal to secure Unionist support in Wednesday's fisheries vote.

Six Ulster Unionist MPs voted with the Government and three abstained on Wednesday, helping the Prime Minister to stave off defeat by nine votes.

Sir Patrick Mayhew repeatedly sidestepped questions on

whether the Government had bought the Unionists' support with a promise not to set up an all-Ireland fishing body.

David Alton (Lib Dem, Liverpool Mossley Hill) told him: "Your failure to say that the Government is not involved in some sort of specific agreement will be read as confirmation that it is."

Seamus Mallon (SDLP, Newry and Armagh) said the Government was daily having "its nose tweaked" by the "bullying" Unionists.

IN PARLIAMENT

YESTERDAY: In the Commons, questions to Northern Ireland ministers and the Prime Minister were followed by a statement of the House, about next week's Commons business. There were also debates on the Legal Aid Advisory Committee (Disolution) Order and farm and conservation grant regulations. In the Lords, the Environment Bill spent its second day in committee.

TODAY: In the Commons, there will be a second reading debate on the Home Energy Conservation Bill, a private member's Bill from Diana Moxley (Lib Dem, Chesham). The Lords are not sitting.

PC WORLD

BRITAIN'S BIGGEST CHOICE OF SOFTWARE

INTEGRATED SOFTWARE

NOVELL WORLD-WIDE PERFECT WORKS AND QUICKEN BUNDLE

NEW £65.50

CLARIS WORKS QUICKEN BUNDLE

£75

MICROSOFT OFFICE V4.2

£339

MICROSOFT OFFICE PRO 4.3

£449

SPECIAL OFFER

MICROSOFT OFFICE PRO 4.3 CD-ROM

£439

MICROSOFT OFFICE PRO 4.3 CD-ROM

£249

LOTUS SMARTSUITE V3.0 CD-ROM

£199

LOTUS SMARTSUITE V3.0 CD-ROM

£259

LOTUS SMARTSUITE V3.0 CD-ROM

£259

LOTUS SMARTSUITE V3.0 CD-ROM

£259

LOTUS SMARTSUITE V3.0 CD-ROM

£259

LOTUS SMARTSUITE V3.0 CD-ROM

£259

ACCOUNTS

MICROSOFT MONEY V3

£25.50

QUICKEN DELUXE HOME PACK

£52

QUICKEN DELUXE BUSINESS PACK

£52

SAGE INSTANT ACCOUNTING

£129

HURRY LIMITED STOCKS

ASSOCIATES SIMPLE ACCOUNTS

£99

GRAPHICS

COREL DRAW V5

£499

COREL DRAW V5

£499

COREL DRAW V5

£499

COREL DRAW V5

£499

COREL DRAW V5

£499

COREL DRAW V5

£499

COREL DRAW V5

£499

COREL DRAW V5

£499

COREL DRAW V5

£499

CD-ROM REFERENCE SOFTWARE

MICROSOFT DANGEROUS CREATURES

£38

MICROSOFT ANCIENT LANDS

£38

MICROSOFT ART GALLERY

£38

MICROSOFT CINEMANIA '95

£38

MICROSOFT MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

£48.99

MICROSOFT STRAVINSKY

£48.99

MICROSOFT MOZART

£48.99

MICROSOFT BOOKSHELF '94

£75

10% OFF ALL REFERENCE SOFTWARE

ENCARTA '95

£69

ENCARTA '95

£69

ENCARTA '95

£69

ENCARTA '95

£69

ENCARTA '95

£69

ENCARTA '95

£69

ENCARTA '95

£69

GAMES SOFTWARE

ECSTASIA CD-ROM

£37.99

RISE OF THE ROBOTS CD-ROM

£34

MAGIC CARPET CD-ROM

£37.99

DOOM 2 CD-ROM

£39

DELTA V CD-ROM

£39

WING COMMANDER III CD-ROM

£39.99

LITTLE BIG ADVENTURE 3 1/2 DISK

£42.50

UNDER THE KILLING MOON CD-ROM

£49.99

GAMES PACK

£89.99

GAMES PACK

£89.99

GAMES PACK

£89.99

GAMES PACK

£89.99

GAMES PACK

£89.99

GAMES PACK

£89.99

GAMES PACK

£89.99

GAMES PACK

£89.99

APPLE MAC

MICROSOFT CREATIVE WRITER

£29

MICROSOFT FINE ARTIST

£29

MICROSOFT ULTIMATE ROBOTS

£39

MICROSOFT EXCEL V5

£229

LOTUS 123

£299

MICROSOFT OFFICE V3

£299

MICROSOFT OFFICE V3

£299

MICROSOFT OFFICE V3

£299

MICROSOFT OFFICE V3

£299

MICROSOFT OFFICE V3

£299

MICROSOFT OFFICE V3

£299

MICROSOFT OFFICE V3

£299

MICROSOFT OFFICE V3

£299

MICROSOFT OFFICE V3

£299

MICROSOFT OFFICE V3

£299

MICROSOFT OFFICE V3

£299

PC WORLD PRICE PROMISE

As Britain's biggest computer superstore, our buying power means we guarantee low prices everyday. In the unlikely event that you find the same offer at a lower price locally, just come back to us with the details and your receipt within a week of purchase and we'll refund the difference. The item must be new, complete and ready for immediate delivery. This guarantee excludes mail order prices/offers and future PC World price reductions.

ALL PRICES EXCLUDE VAT

DELIVERY CHARGES AT 17.5%

PC WORLD

THE COMPUTER SUPERSTORE

BIG ON CHOICE ■ BIG ON SERVICE ■ BIG ON VALUE

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

MON-SUN 10AM-6PM

LONDON

100 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0LP

020 7638 0000

020 7638 0000

020 7638 0000

020 7638 0000

020 7638 0000

020 7638 0000

020 7638 0000

020 7638 0000

020 7638 0000

Five Britons kidnapped by Sierra Leone rebels

By MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

FIVE Britons working for a Swiss-owned mining company in Sierra Leone have been kidnapped by armed rebels, the firm said yesterday. They were among ten Europeans seized on Wednesday after days of fierce fighting between the guerrillas and government troops in the area.

British diplomats were trying to send a message to the kidnappers urging them to release the hostages. They were named yesterday by the Sierra Leone Ore and Metal Company as James Westwood, the managing director, and his wife Sheila, Ross Mills, the operations manager, Thomas Collins and Daniel Cardam.

The Government airlifted a heavily armed rapid deployment force to the Mokajibi Hills in the south, to try to track down the kidnappers, and soldiers were reported to be fighting suspected rebels near the site. Keli Conteh, the army chief of staff, claimed that his troops were winning the battle.

Whitehall officials yesterday expressed pessimism about an early end to the kidnapping. Two other Britons working for Voluntary Service Overseas are still being held after they were kidnapped by rebels last November at Kabela, about 155 miles northeast of Freetown, the capital. Foday Sankoh, the rebel leader, threatened a week ago to kill them if the military Government executed an officer accused of working with the guerrillas.

British diplomats in Freetown have been in touch with those holding the two volunteers, rather than relying too heavily on government help, and were hoping that they would be released soon. "Now

the situation is a great deal more serious," one said yesterday.

The rebels fighting the Government of Captain Valentine Strasser have been demanding that all foreign troops and advisers leave the country. As part of their campaign they have targeted Europeans and those working in the mines. On January 4, Robert Gaas, a Swiss, was kidnapped, and an unidentified Russian was seized late last year.

Captain Strasser, 28, seized power from President Momoh after a coup in 1992 with a promise to end the revolt by Mr Sankoh's Revolutionary United Front, which began in 1991.

The military leader, who was seriously wounded by guerrillas before he took power, accused the Momoh administration of corruption, self-indulgence, neglect of the army and mishandling of the war against the rebels. However, they control most of the east of the country and earlier this month Captain Strasser said that he would step up the military campaign if they refused to negotiate a settlement.

Sierra Leone, one of the world's poorest countries, relies for its foreign earnings on the mines, which are run mostly by foreign companies. Security has now been stepped up at the American-owned Sierra Rutile mine, which is protected by a small staff of US Marines.

Captain Strasser, who has promised multi-party elections and a return to democracy by December, last year began a series of reforms to bring more discipline to the army. His Government executed 12 soldiers for crimes including robbery, murder and helping the rebels.



Children welcome the Pope to St Mary's Cathedral in Sydney yesterday where he celebrated Mass with the Sisters of St Joseph

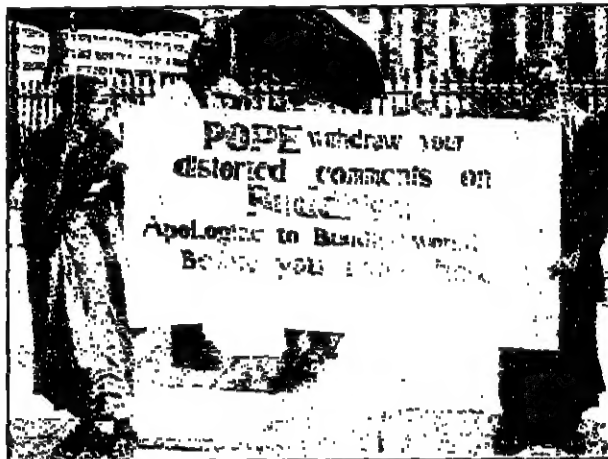
Pope met by protesting nuns in Sydney

FROM ROGER MAYNARD
IN SYDNEY AND
CHRISTOPHER THOMAS
IN COLOMBO

MORE than 200 Australian nuns staged a silent protest against the Pope's refusal to countenance the ordination of women to the priesthood when he spoke at St Mary's Roman Catholic Cathedral in Sydney yesterday.

Their protest forced the Pope to speak about the role of women in the church, although the nuns of the Order of Sisters of St Joseph, wearing lay clothes, refused to comment on the issue after their protest.

During the service the Pope acknowledged the issue, which has caused great controversy in the Catholic Church, saying: "I am convinced that a mistake in anthropology is at the root of the failure of society to understand church teaching and the true role of women. That role



Buddhists protest against the Pope's visit to Colombo

is in no way diminished but is in fact enhanced and liberated in a special way by motherhood."

The Pope was showing signs of fatigue by the end of his address, falling back into his chair and appearing to shake at one stage. But he

carried out the main purpose of his Australian visit, the beatification of Mother Mary MacKillop, founder of the Sisters of St Joseph.

The ceremony, during which the 19th-century nun, the daughter of Scottish immigrants, became entitled to be

addressed as "Blessed" — the stage immediately before "Saint" — was held in front of a congregation of 200,000 at Sydney's Randwick racecourse.

Mother Mary, born in Melbourne in 1822, co-founded the Sisters of St Joseph, which is dedicated to performing social services. The Order, which was self-governing from the start, annoyed the church authorities who denounced the founder as an alcoholic. In 1871 she was even excommunicated for five months.

The Pope arrives today in Sri Lanka where 70 per cent of the country's 17 million population is Buddhist.

Buddhist monks have threatened to boycott the visit as a protest against remarks made in the Pope's recent book, *Crossing the Threshold of Hope*. Some passages are seen as critical of Buddhist beliefs. The Catholic Church in Sri Lanka has expressed its regret on behalf of the Pope.

but one Buddhist monk has threatened self-immolation.

The island's Catholic bishop said that their joy at the visit had been "impaired" by the dispute and expressed regret for "hurt caused by this publication". The Government has been making frantic attempts in recent days to persuade the Buddhist monks to relent, but in vain.

The Sri Lankan Federation of Buddhist Organisations, representing 60 groups, rejected the Government's appeal and criticism in the press. Any monk who accepted an invitation to meet him tomorrow would be expelled, it said.

Before leaving Rome for his tour of Asia the Pope declared his "profound respect and sincere esteem" for Buddhism, although he fell short of apologising. Galleage Purnawardena, the Buddhist federation's spokesman, said: "What we want is an apology and the Pope to withdraw what he has written."

Envoy rejects CIA job

Washington: William Crowe, America's Ambassador in London, has refused a White House offer to become the new director of the CIA. (Martin Fletcher writes). Sources in Washington said he had more than once been "sounded out" in a very serious manner about filling the vacancy caused by James Woolsey's sudden resignation last month, but was not interested. "I can categorically state that he's not on the list any more. He's taken himself off," a senior US official said, while Admiral Crowe told *USA Today* yesterday that he was "very pleased where I am".

His refusal presents Mr Clinton with a problem because the other leading contender, John Deutch, the Deputy Defence Secretary, has also declined the job. "The CIA is a sinking ship in a lot of people's eyes," an Administration source said.

Surrogate baby killed

New controversy enveloped the booming business of "surrogate parenting" in America yesterday after a Pennsylvania bachelor was charged with killing the son he paid a woman \$30,000 (£19,000) to bear (James Bone writes).

James Austin, 26, a bank official, is accused of beating his five-week-old son James to death with a plastic coat hanger, before the paperwork transferring the infant to him could be completed. Phyllis Huddleston, 28, the mother who was artificially inseminated, is now arranging the baby's funeral.

The case prompted calls for new controls on a largely unregulated industry. There are an estimated 1,500 surrogate births a year in the United States.

Serpent puts faith to test

A man died after he took the words of St Mark's gospel too literally and was bitten by a rattlesnake he had taken to his local church in Edgema, Georgia (Tom Rhodes writes). Dewey Hale, 40, had apparently been impressed by the biblical words which say that believers "shall take up serpents". When he placed his hand in the box to remove the reptile it bit into his hand. He was not taken to hospital and died later the same day. Martha Hale, his cousin, said: "The congregation feels that he did not die because of the snake but because it was his time to go."

'Sundance' TV planned



New York: The actor and director Robert Redford, above, is setting up his own cable television channel named after his famous role in *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid* (James Bone writes). Redford has announced a 50-50 joint venture with a division of the entertainment conglomerate Viacom to screen the work of independent film directors on the Sundance Film Channel. British-made films are expected to feature heavily.

Peacemaking President muses on life, love and lost causes

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER
IN WASHINGTON



A drawing from the Carter poetry book

JIMMY CARTER is back in the news, this time not as a peacemaker but as a poet. The former President has just published a book of 44 poems, *Always a Reckoning*, which makes him America's third poet-President after Lincoln and John Quincy Adams.

"It takes a lot of courage to write a book of poems and put it out for public scrutiny," Mr Carter said. And some of the poems are indeed very personal — but that has not prevented him from reading them on television chat shows or from signing thousands of copies at

bookshops around the country. Of his wife, Rosalynn, he writes: "She'd smile, and birds would feel that they no longer had to sing, or it may be I failed to hear their song."

He recalls how, as a lovesick young man, he would pursue Rosalynn to the cinema where "I'd pay to sit behind her, blind to what was on the screen, and watch the image flicker upon her hair."

It must be said that Mr Carter still stands a better chance of winning a Nobel Prize for peace than literature, but reviewers have so far been gentle.

He writes about growing up in rural Georgia and recalls the moment his black playmates instinctively refused to enter the gate to his father's farm: "We only saw it vaguely then but we were transformed at that place. A silent line was drawn between friend and friend, race and race."

He humorously recalls his early experiences in Georgia politics, including how he proposed a law that "citizens could never vote again after they had passed away."

I lost the next campaign, and failed to carry a single precinct with a cemetery. There is just one poem about the

White House that describes how he and Rosalynn stood on the roof one night and marvelled at a "primal" formation of geese flying overhead.

Another poem tells how he overcame British resistance to honouring his idol, Dylan Thomas, with a plaque in Westminster Abbey's Poet's Corner "because, they said, his morals were below the standards there."

The book, illustrated by Mr Carter's 17-year-old granddaughter, is his ninth. "I think it's a good book," he said with his usual modesty, "and it expresses a lot about me that I couldn't say otherwise."

200 die in Kashmir highway avalanche

FROM REUTERS
IN JAMMU

MORE than 200 people were believed dead and 400 others buried under snow when avalanches roared down Himalayan mountainsides along the Srinagar-Jammu highway, the United News of India said yesterday.

Reports coming in from various points along the road indicated that the final toll could be much higher because rescue teams had not yet reached some affected areas. The police said that as many as five buses had plunged off the 110-mile road that winds through the foothills of the Himalayas since heavy snowfalls hit the area three days ago. About 5,000 people had been rescued from vehicles stranded along the road.

The news agency said that 133 bodies had been recovered from the area since the avalanches began, and many more were thought to be buried in the snow. It said 400 people were still taking refuge in the 1.7-mile-long Jawahar tunnel. Air force helicopters had dropped food and blankets around the mouth of the tunnel for the stranded travellers.

The road, which snakes through precipitous passes, provides the isolated Kashmir valley with its only road link to the rest of India.

Immunity row sparks Mandela cabinet crisis

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN JOHANNESBURG

A CRISIS in President Mandela's coalition Government has blown up over the refusal of the Cabinet to grant immunity from prosecution to 3,500 police officers and at least two former cabinet ministers.

F.W. de Klerk, a Deputy President, denied yesterday that he has threatened to resign from the Cabinet, but it is clear that the refusal to pardon the former enforcers of apartheid is causing an upheaval.

The situation was said to have been aggravated by a bitter attack on the National Party and Mr de Klerk, its

leader, by President Mandela at a cabinet meeting. Mr de Klerk told reporters yesterday: "There is a cabinet situation which creates a serious situation. What is happening is not what I have been working for. I am deeply upset." He boycotted late evening talks on Wednesday between Mr Mandela and National Party ministers in the Cabinet.

□ Durban: Gunmen killed eight people, two of them children, in an attack on a coastal village near Port Shepstone in South Africa's KwaZulu-Natal province on Wednesday night. (Reuters)

SAVE 2500

EVERYTHING REDUCED
All substantially
24 MONTHS INTEREST FREE CREDIT
On everything over £500

LAST FEW DAYS

"Jubilee"
3-piece suite as shown. Was £2350 now £1850. Save £500. With 24 months interest free credit deposit of £450, 24 payments of £59.58 per month. Total credit price £1850, APR 0%.

"Windsor"
3-piece suite as shown. Was £1795 now £1295. Save £500. With 24 months interest free credit deposit of £395.20, 24 payments of £53.96 per month. Total credit price £1295, APR 0%.

Choose from 100 styles • All reduced, all genuine offers • Clearance models reduced by up to £1000

BRISTOL Edgerton Shopping Centre, Hagley Road BRISTOL Clifton Causeway, (Junc. 17, M5) CARDIFF City Link, Newport Road	CHSTER The Greyhound Park, Solihull Road CROYDON 500 Purley Way, Five Ways, (A41, Tesco) GATESHEAD Retail World, Team Valley GUILDFORD 274 High Street, (N. Civic Hall) HENRI NEWSTEAD, Appleby Mills, Retail Park, London Road, Cold A41 LONDON 643 Eastern Avenue	IPSWICH Randolph Road LEEDS Alameda Centre, Whitehall Road LIVERPOOL Grove Farm Triangle, (N. Salisbury, Opp. Post Office) LIVERPOOL 499 Edge Lane, (1 mi. from M62) LONDON CENTRAL No car park LONDON 156 Tottenham Court Road W1 LONDON H Staples Corner NW2	LONDON NW North Circular Road NW10 LONDON 800 yds. Hanger Lane (Grocery System) LONDON SE Clifton's Roundabout, South Circular Road S23 LONDON SW Morden Road, South Wimbledon SW19 MANCHESTER 96 Cheetham Hill Road NORTHAMPTON Bridge Street NOTTINGHAM Huntingdon Street	READING London Road, (Opp. Royal Berks Hospital) ROSWORTH Arterial Road, Galloway Corner ROTHESAM Retail World, Parkgate SOUTHAMPTON Shirley Retail Park, 231-239 Winchester Road SWINDON Valley Way, Uxammet WEST SUSSEX Lakeside Retail Park WOLVERHAMPTON Stafford Street
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

WORLD OF LEATHER

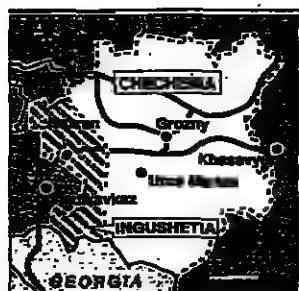
Black humour
Yeltsin d
military
as Palace
Hur
ties
Agne
of class
£100
0345 123111
House

Black humour fails to lighten agony of despair in Chechen hospital ward

COURAGE vies with despair in the amputees' ward of the hospital in Urus-Martan, a town 12 miles south of Grozny.

In one bed was a Chechen fighter named Nuradi, 21, whose leg was amputated above the knee after being hit by a bullet in fighting in Grozny on January 1. He rolled his eyes in his white face and said loudly to his companions: "Yet another journalist I'd better put on a good show for him, hadn't I?" He began to cry: "I'm dying, I'm dying," breaking off to roar with laughter. In his position, this was forbidding and humour on an epic scale.

Two other inhabitants of the ward were quieter, both members of the same medical team: Dr Ahmed Abmatov, who lost a leg



Anatoli Lieven visits the hospital at Urus-Martan, where medical teams battle to save war victims. Many Chechen doctors are among the dead and wounded. Grozny's hospitals have been captured or destroyed

after being wounded in the Presidential Palace in Grozny this week, and his ambulance driver, Aslambek, who was wounded by a bomb in the town of Achkoi Martan on January 11, and who lost an arm. That two members of the same medical team should have

been badly wounded in separate incidents within a week is some indication of the scale of Chechen casualties.

Dr Abubakir Ibragimov, deputy director of the Urus-Martan hospital, said: "We can't say how many doctors have been killed so far. But

we know that several of our friends have gone to help at the front, and we've heard nothing more from them."

His words were interrupted by screams from another bed. Misha Yefimov, eight, a Russian boy from southern Grozny, was having his dressings changed. He had both his legs when Russian rockets hit his home on Monday. As the doctor worked on him, he cried for help from his mother, who was sitting beside him with an expression on her face which I cannot describe. The doctor and nurse attending him were both doing their best not to cry.

Dr Ibragimov asked me to appeal for help in Britain, to get proper artificial legs for Misha. "It is a terrible thing for a child of his

age with his life before him. We have no proper artificial legs here, and even if we did, the demand is going to be enormous."

The doctor said that since all the main hospitals in Grozny had been captured or destroyed, Urus-Martan was now the main surgical hospital in Chechnya. He said it held 128 wounded, and the gynaecological, neurological and therapeutic wards had all been turned over to emergency cases.

He added that the hospital had only been able to keep going for two reasons: many doctors and nurses who had lost their hospitals in Grozny were now concentrated in Urus-Martan; and a trickle of international aid from the International Red Cross and Médecins sans Frontières had been able to

reach them. The hospital would be able to work only for another week, given the present influx of casualties. "We need everything connected with surgery, everything," he said. "Plasma, blood, anaesthetics, sterilising equipment."

Dr Ibragimov bitterly condemned the Russian attack and bombardment but, like many Chechen doctors and the educated classes in general, he also denounced the Dudayev regime. "For three years we have had no new supplies because our Government has cared nothing for the health or well-being of its people. Doctors and nurses have not been paid those who have remained have done so only from commitment."

He also blamed General Dudayev for frightening away

many ethnic Russian doctors. "Here, there are no questions of nationality. There are only patients and those who help them."

The hospital at Urus-Martan is a clean, orderly and well-equipped place compared with some of the filthy, dilapidated hospitals in smaller towns, also now packed with wounded. In Dr Ibragimov's words: "In many places, they can't even sterilise equipment and they have no sterile overalls. They are carrying out operations dressed in their ordinary clothes."

The dead on the Chechen side, military and civilian, must stand at 1,000 at least, and could be many more. The military casualties are obviously overwhelmingly Chechen; civilian ones appear to be ethnic Russians from Grozny.

DAVID BRANCH

Yeltsin declares military victory as Palace falls

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S military campaign in Chechnya is over, President Yeltsin announced yesterday after his troops captured the Presidential Palace in the breakaway republic's capital, Grozny. It was also announced in Moscow that three generals who opposed the intervention had been sacked as deputy defence ministers.

Hours after infantrymen from the Urals hoisted the Russian tricolour over the devastated remains of the multi-storey concrete structure in the heart of Grozny, the Russian leader announced that the process of rebuilding and reconciliation could begin.

The military stage of restoring power of the Russian Federation's constitution in Chechnya has actually finished," said a statement released by President Yeltsin, who said the next stage would

be the "restoration of Chechnya's life support system" and the "protection of human rights".

"On this day, which gave us the hope of restoring peace, I bow my head before the memory of soldiers killed in this conflict and to the victims of the suffering civilian population," he said.

President Yeltsin's move was widely expected. Although the victory may be largely symbolic, it is convincing enough for him to halt the first stage of the campaign and begin trying to patch up his battered image at home and abroad.

The Russian leader still faces many serious obstacles in Chechnya from continued resistance to Russian rule, and in Moscow from the political, military and economic fallout from his unpopular, bungled and costly campaign. Al-

though the first phase of the military objective has been achieved, it was not clear how President Yeltsin planned to restore his authority over the rest of the republic.

General Dzhokhar Dudayev, the Chechen separatist leader, is still at large with thousands of well-armed supporters who have vowed to continue their struggle in the rugged mountains which provide ideal cover for guerrillas.

In Moscow, recommitments over the military action were beginning yesterday, as the Ministry of Defence confirmed that three senior generals, critical of the handling of the campaign, had been sacked as deputy defence ministers. They were named as Colonel-General Boris Gromov, Colonel-General Georgi Kondratyev and Colonel-General Viktor Minorov.

But the disgruntled generals will not be the only ones to suffer. It is widely expected that General Pavel Grachev, the Defence Minister in charge of the Chechen operation, will also go.

Yesterday the Ministry of Defence confirmed that it would stop using inexperienced conscripts in Chechnya. The teenage soldiers, many of whom had only fired a rifle once before being sent on suicidal operations in Grozny, were among the heaviest casualties.

Vladimir Shumelko, the Speaker of the Federation Council, the upper house of parliament, said those responsible for ordering the conscripts into battle would be punished. His remarks appeared to be directed at General Grachev and Sergei Stepashin, the head of the counter intelligence service, who helped to direct operations.



An anguished woman walks away from a victim of air attacks on Grozny which continued yesterday despite a proposed ceasefire

Russian liberal attacks 'weakness' of West

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S most popular political figure yesterday rebuked the West for not taking a tougher and more principled stand against President Yeltsin over the conflict in Chechnya.

Grigori Yavlinsky, the liberal leader of the Yabloko faction and a possible presidential candidate, deplored the weak stand taken by Western governments, including Britain, and insisted that only a resolute approach would benefit Russian democracy and Western interests.

"My message to the West is, 'be honest with Russia,'" he said, after a visit to London where he made similar appeals to British officials. "It is extremely important that the West says explicitly to Yeltsin that what he is doing is unacceptable from the point of view of democracy and human rights,

and that he cannot count on their support if the war continues."

His remarks reflected a deep sense of betrayal among many Russian liberals who have spoken out against the violence in Chechnya, where thousands of people have been killed and tens of thousands made homeless since Russian troops invaded the breakaway republic on December 11.

Although Western governments have called for a halt to hostilities, their protests have been largely muted. Almost every Western power still supports Mr Yeltsin and in the words of one senior diplomat, the only question remaining is "whether to slap him once on the wrist, or twice".

In defence of their policy, Western officials have bemoaned the absence of a clear pro-reformist alternative to Mr Yeltsin. But Mr Yavlinsky, who is currently top of the opinion polls, is projecting himself as the natural choice

for the presidential elections next year, or earlier if the Chechen conflict causes the President's premature removal from power.

Mr Yavlinsky, 42, a charismatic figure, came to prominence in 1991 when he drafted a blueprint for the rapid reform of the Russian economy, called the 500-Day Plan, which Mikhail Gorbachev, the former Soviet leader, turned down as too radical.

Since then he has been one of the most ardent supporters of democratic reform in Russia and helped to establish the radical experiment in free market economics that has transformed the city of Nizhny Novgorod into one of the most successful areas in post-communist Russia.

In the Duma, the Lower House of parliament, where he heads a party with about 25 seats, he has been an active campaigner against the increased authority acquired by Mr

Yeltsin and last week proposed a law that would limit the Kremlin's use of force in the future. The Bill was voted down by ultra-nationalists, but Mr Yavlinsky, undeterred, said: "Whatever happens in this country, I intend to go all the way."

□ Sofia: Eduard Shevardnadze, Georgia's leader, said yesterday that Moscow had brought the Chechen crisis upon itself by displaying double standards towards aggressive separatism. In a newspaper interview coinciding with a visit to Sofia he linked the crisis to alleged Russian support of separatists in the breakaway Georgian region of Abkhazia who drove out government forces in September 1993. Mr Shevardnadze said the bloodshed in Grozny was due to the fact that Russia had not intervened earlier. (Reuters)

Leading article and Letters, page 19

Agnelli adds touch of class to Cabinet

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

WOMAN IN THE NEWS

ITALIANS were gripped yesterday by the versatile career of Susanna Agnelli, sister of Gianni, the Fiat industry magnate, who has capped her privileged and extraordinary life by becoming the country's first woman Foreign Minister and the first member of her illustrious family to enter Government.

Signora Agnelli, 72, is the best known and most popular member of the technocratic Cabinet of Lamberto Dini, the Prime Minister, that was sworn in on Tuesday night. She also is the only woman among the 22 ministers.

She took over at the Farnesina, the Fascist-epoch foreign ministry building on the banks of Tiber, on Wednesday, replacing Antonio Martino, who had been installed there since May as part of Silvio Berlusconi's coalition Government.

Four spells as a junior minister in the Foreign Ministry between 1986 and 1991 mean that she is familiar with

the workings of the diplomatic corps. Signora Agnelli is also a mother of six, married to Count Urbano Rattazzi. For a time they lived in Argentina and their son Cristiano works at Fiat's Argentinian subsidiary company.

Nicknamed "Sun" by her family, she was elected to Parliament in 1976 for the Republican Party, the small "lay" grouping that is close to big business while theoretically distinct from the Christian Democrats and their successors, the Italian People's Party (PPI). In 1981 she was elected a member of the European Parliament and in 1983 a senator. She remained a member of the Republican Party's national council until 1992.

Her long experience in politics is unique in her family except for a brief flirtation between her other brother, Umberto, and the Christian Democrats. Gianni Agnelli has always shunned politics, although his position as owner



Susanna Agnelli, Italy's first woman Foreign Minister

of Italy's largest private company has earned him the reputation of being the uncrowned King of Italy and his pronouncements on the country and its politics are treated with respect.

Signora Agnelli is well

known for her writings, including a book about her childhood in which she describes the fear she and her brothers felt for their grandfather, Giovanni.

Dennis MacShane, page 18

Delors takes leave on downbeat note

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN STRASBOURG

EUROPE should haul itself out of its current pessimism and paralysis and go forward to monetary union and joint defence policies, Jacques Delors told the European Parliament yesterday in a surprisingly downbeat farewell to an assembly which contains some of his most ardent fans.

Mr Delors, who stands down as President of the European Commission on Monday, received a standing ovation and was presented with a lavishly produced book of his own speeches. In his speech yesterday, he pleaded with national governments not to turn the European Union into a "Gulliver in chains", lacking workable institutions for making joint decisions.

The best institutions, he said, would be federal ones. Only the "federal approach" could clearly define what sovereignty should be transferred to the centre and what should remain with national states.

Only federalism "allows democratic control and can punish abuses of power. Only

federalism can guarantee respect for national character and regional variety."

But Mr Delors admitted that the EU was "distant from its citizens" and could progress only if governments took voters along with them. He reaffirmed his conviction that Europe could only be truly united when it had a single currency and common military forces, concluding: "The springtime of Europe is still before us."

In spite of this robust restatement of his familiar themes, however, it was hard to escape a sense that Mr Delors believes that a united Europe is further away than ever. His recent interviews and speeches have been sprinkled with pessimistic asides aimed at politicians he thinks lack the courage to fight for the federalist dream.

Speeches by MEPs yesterday emphasised that Mr Delors's place in European history is already assured.

Leading article, page 19

Threat to kill missing US officer and son

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

ABOUT 100 Turkish and American troops are searching for a US Air Force officer and his ten-year-old son who were reported missing after a trip to Karakaya resort in Bolu province, 70 miles west of Ankara.

An anonymous telephone caller claiming to be in Turkey called Israel Radio and threatened to kill Lieutenant-Colonel Mike Cuillard, 37, unless Israel freed Mustafa Dirani, a captured Lebanese cleric.

Israel kidnapped Mr Dirani from his

home in southern Lebanon last May as a bargaining chip for Ron Arad, an Israeli air navigator missing since 1986 and believed once held by Mr Dirani.

The colonel works in the American Embassy in Ankara in the Office of Defence Co-operation. Commander Chuck Franklin, a Pentagon official, said in Washington.

The call to Israel Radio came as other callers telephoning a Turkish news agency and a television station claimed that they held the American and his son and that they would be killed in 48 hours unless the cleric was freed. The Israeli

Radio caller gave no deadline. Hadas Matas, a telephone operator for Israel Radio, said that the caller to her station spoke in English, in an accent that did not sound either Israeli or Arabic. American and Israeli officials have cast doubt on the authenticity of the kidnapping claim. Israeli security sources said that the action did not fit the pattern of Islamic extremists, who usually avoid abducting women or children.

The sources also noted that the kidnappers had not released any photographs or other identification; militants usually do so to prove a kidnapping.

Simpson
Winter
Sale
FINAL
REDUCTIONS
START
TOMORROW

Simpson
EST. 1954
INCORPORATED

SIMPSON PICCADILLY SALE - 208 PICCADILLY W1
OPEN MON-FRI 10AM-7PM - SAT 9.30AM-6PM
DAKS SALE AT DAKS SLOANE STREET SW1
OPEN MON-SAT 10AM-6PM - WEDNESDAY 10AM-7PM

SAAB
OWNERS

COMPREHENSIVE
INSURANCE FROM
£100

Low Cost Schemes for SAAB's
Tel: 01905 723123 NOW!
or Phone your Nearest Branch at the Local Rate on
0345 123111

Hill House Hammond
Over 250 Branches Nationwide

Breaking soon.

It's been 9

be upon us.

Government's

to register

of the many

financial i

Just turn

listed there

will send y

THE POW

Don't Issue.

Executive Director, National Power and PowerGen.

...offering a Share Shop service.



'I can walk myself' survivor tells rescuers after two days in wreckage without food and water

Eighty-year-old women pulled alive from rubble

FROM GWEN ROBINSON IN TOKYO

RESCUE OPERATION

AT LEAST 3,600 people were confirmed dead by last night in the Kobe earthquake and hopes are fading for more than 660 still missing, many trapped under the rubble.

Nearly 22,000 people were injured, and about 270,000 survivors have been accommodated in makeshift refuges in 620 schools and halls.

Rescue workers picking through the devastation found seven people who had miraculously survived through the winter weather and two days buried under collapsed buildings without food or water. Two 80-year-old women were found alive in Nishinomiya, east of Kobe. One, Yoshimi Nomura, was badly hurt. The other, Setsuko Orii, was only scratched — even her spectacles were intact. She told rescuers who tried to carry her away: "I can walk myself."

Also in Nishinomiya, Shinsuke Yamada, nine, was trapped for 57 hours, still conscious, in the ruins of the block of flats where he lived. Kyodo news agency reported. A bulldozer team uncovered him and took him to hospital. Yesterday morning two men,

aged 74 and 94, were pulled from collapsed houses in the city of Ashiya, also to the east of Kobe. They had survived beneath the wreckage for more than 50 hours.

A national campaign calling for volunteer workers and donations of cash and goods was gaining momentum yesterday, but the two-day delay in starting relief efforts has already taken its toll: dazed and dishevelled survivors who have been living in intense cold and extremely cramped conditions at the evacuation centres spoke of severe shortages of food and water and appalling sanitary arrangements. Public health workers last night issued a warning of potential outbreaks of disease if conditions do not improve.

Stricken survivors could still be seen last night, frantically digging through rubble with their bare hands searching for friends and relatives.

Rescue workers, spurred on by yesterday's discoveries of trapped survivors, stepped up

their search efforts. They had been greatly hampered in the first 36 hours after the quake by shortages of digging equipment, emergency vehicles, and other resources.

Firefighters, meanwhile, battled more than 90 new fires that broke out yesterday after towering buildings finally collapsed, causing gas tanks to explode. Their efforts were also hindered by severe shortages of water, personnel and vehicles. The shortcomings of the firefighting and rescue operations have both come under heavy criticism from survivors and commentators.

On the first day alone more than 105 fires burned throughout the night and quickly spread because of the shortage of water and personnel. Large sections of the city were destroyed.

Critics say that hundreds of lives and many buildings could have been saved if the relevant government agencies had prepared more comprehensive disaster-relief strategies. Japan's military forces

have also been criticised for their slow response.

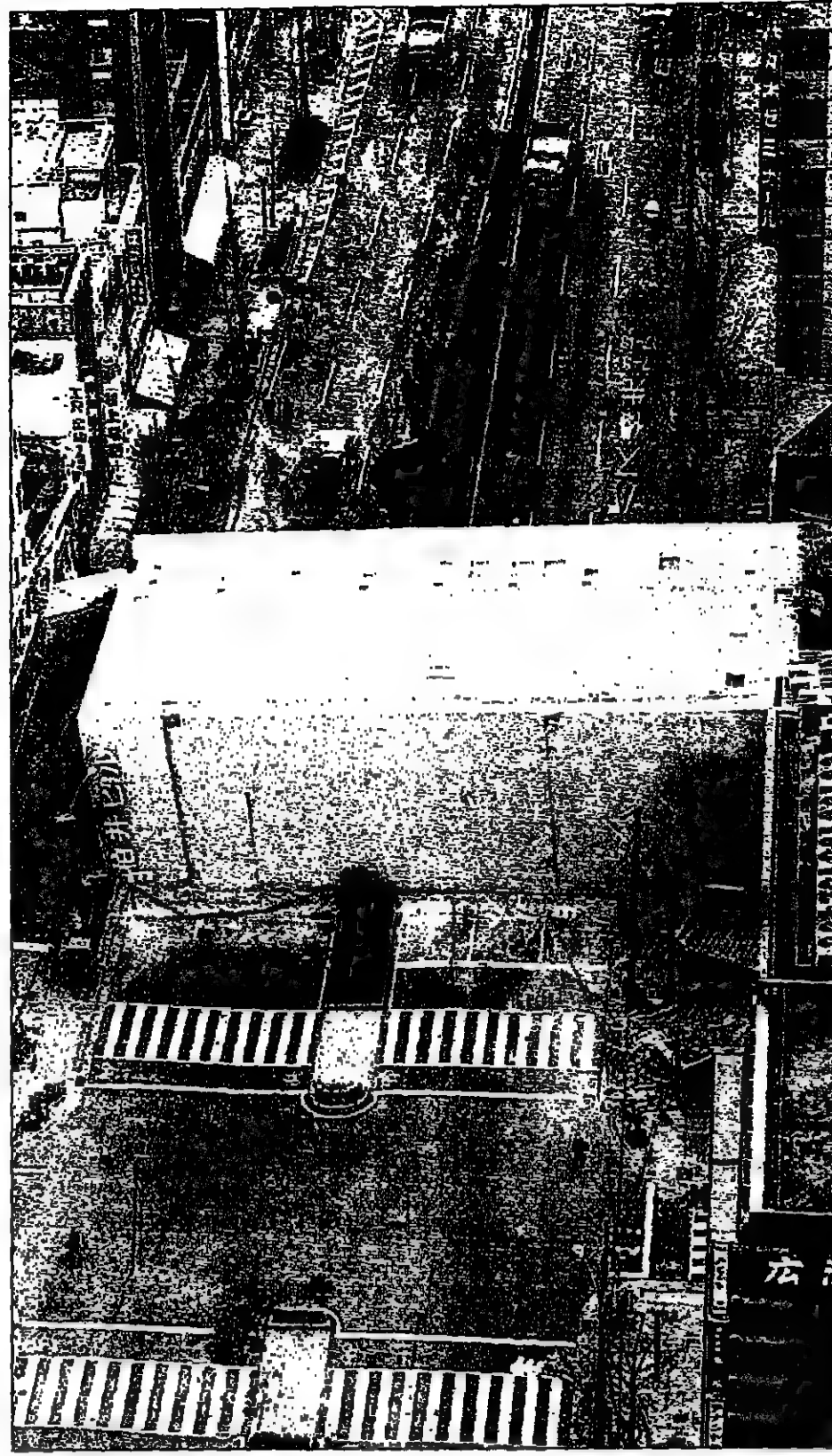
The Defence Agency announced yesterday that it was sending nearly 15,000 troops to the affected region to assist rescue operations and disperse food, water and medical treatment. For two days after the quake, however, military and police workers were in short supply.

Nobuo Ishihara, the deputy chief Cabinet secretary, conceded that the Government "should do some soul-searching" about the delay in starting military rescue efforts. At the same time the Government reversed its earlier opposition to accepting foreign assistance. A team of sniffer dogs arrived from Switzerland with 25 Swiss search personnel to join the relief operation.

The Government had earlier rejected offers of help from foreign governments, including Britain, which said it would help the quake victims in any way needed. That offer has yet to be taken up.

Tomichi Murayama, Japan's Prime Minister, toured stricken areas yesterday and announced that the Government would provide "condolence money" totalling ten billion yen (about £65 million) to the bereaved families of those who died in the quake. The fund will provide some £32,000 to each family which had lost its main breadwinner; others will receive up to £16,000.

Mr Murayama has also undertaken that the Government will shoulder most of the cost of reconstruction of the devastated areas. But it is not clear if individuals who lost their homes will be eligible for assistance. Insurance industry officials said Wednesday that Kobe and its environs had the lowest proportion of earthquake insurance policy holders of any area in Japan.



A building toppled by the earthquake lies across a six-lane motorway in Kobe

Residents face life without the basics

FROM PAGE 1

the government has done to help the stricken city. Some 90 per cent of Kobe is without running water. Suddenly, the city's people, used to running water at the touch of a tap, do not know where to find it. So far, Kobe's authorities have organised a fleet of 250 vehicles to deliver water, but that may not be enough.

In Nagata, one of the worst hit areas of Kobe, the fires still smoulder while survivors search the blackened ruins for anything which somehow might have survived the blaze. The massive stone pillars of Nagata Shrine lie across the road. In the shrine courtyard, a group of old people huddle around a fire to keep warm. One of them, Mr Matsuo, a man in his 70s, gestures towards the flaming timbers. "That's what my house looks like now. I've lived here 40 years, and now all I have are the clothes I'm wearing and some blankets from the shrine." Like many Japanese, he has no insurance, but at least he has somewhere to sleep along with 200 homeless people who have been given refuge in the shrine.

Not far away, the tiny spire of a wooden church rises over the roofs of the few houses still standing in the area. Inside, a collection of people, a young girl and a boy with Down's Syndrome eat a simple meal. A woman greets me warmly as a fellow Christian, and tells me how the earthquake is really a blessing.

"We Japanese have forgotten God. We have become too materialistic." She is on the verge of tears, but somehow she continues. "God has not forgotten us. Now having seen his power, we will remember Him. It is a blessing and we must be grateful."

Thousands trek out of city

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS IN NISHINOMIYA

REFUGEES

ON ONE of the few trains still running, well-dressed workers on their way to Osaka offices sat alongside grimy, bleary-eyed quake victims. Thousands of refugees had trekked out of Kobe, ravaged by earthquake and fire. The nearest railway station that still had service to neighbouring Osaka was a 3½-hour walk away. Noriko Sato, a housewife, hiked out of one of the worst affected areas with her husband and two children.

ren. "It's a miracle none of us was injured," she said, "but we have to leave. There's no water or gas or food."

The main Osaka-Kobe road was closed yesterday, except for supply and emergency vehicles, which were making progress for the first time. Up until then, even ambulances with sirens wailing had sat trapped for hours in mammoth jams. In Kobe's burnt-out centre, small knots of mourners gathered at homes

that had collapsed; the rubble was dotted with bouquets.

Authorities were so busy with the immediate task of saving lives that other concerns were ignored. At the site of a Kobe chemical factory that had collapsed the air was heavy with an acrid smell. The street was blocked off with barrels marked "Danger".

Fires flared again yesterday in central Kobe, and an old woman wept by her partially collapsed house as flames approached. "It's inherited from my ancestors," she said, "I cannot let it burn."

Mob of ministering angels hands out bread and noodles

FROM GWEN ROBINSON IN TOKYO

GANGS

ONE of Japan's most notorious yakuza organized crime gangs has emerged from the smouldering ruins of the earthquake-devastated city of Kobe to prove that every cloud has a silver lining.

The lavish, modern headquarters of the Yamaguchi-gumi, Japan's largest yakuza gang, sits behind an elegant stone wall and a row of decorative pine trees in Nada, the suburb of Kobe hardest hit by Tuesday's quake.

The spacious home of Yoshinori Watanabe, the gang's boss, is right next door. Both buildings survived the quake unscathed. In normal times the shuttered windows

and video surveillance cameras mounted on the premises lend the buildings a sinister air. But in the chaotic days since the quake, this citadel of crime has been transformed. Gang members have been giving away food, water and other relief goods to survivors of the quake. News of their action has spread quickly and more than 200 people lined up in front of the gang's headquarters yesterday. The gang handed out bread, instant noodles, powdered milk and even nappies, residents told a Japanese news service.

"The gang is taking the place of the authorities," a middle-aged woman in the

queue said, praising the gangsters' "justice and humanity". She added: "It is up to the individual whether to accept the goods, but I certainly will."

The Yamaguchi gang was formed in Kobe in 1915 and today has 23,100 members in branches throughout Japan, according to police figures. The police estimate the syndicate's annual income at well over 270 billion yen (£7 billion), most of it gained through an empire of legal and illegal operations, including gambling, prostitution, and loan-sharking.

Mr Watanabe is practically a god in Japan's active underworld, a shady community which comprises some 3,300 organised crime groups, according to the police.

Earthquake experts caught in disaster

BY ANJANA APTEJA

OSAKA

AMONG those caught in the earthquake this week were about 240 seismologists and other academics who had gathered for a three-day conference in Osaka to discuss the effects of such disasters on urban areas.

The meeting has been suspended, but many of the Japanese and American experts have stayed to study the aftermath of the quake.

"It was a very big earthquake in a densely populated area, and people have been into the field to look at the damage. It is very unfortunate," said Susan Tubbesing, director of the Earthquake Research Institute in California, a professional association

which has 2,500 social scientists in the field as members.

Ms Tubbesing, who also studies how people respond to such disasters, said it was too early to draw conclusions about the victims' behaviour. □ Escape plans: Some of the nine students and a lecturer from Stirling University caught in the earthquake are planning to walk from Kobe to Osaka today if official rescue attempts fail. They said they were in danger and losing patience with failed official attempts to evacuate them.

"Our living conditions are getting worse all the time, and we're just desperate to get out," one said.



Relatives post notices in central Kobe asking for information about missing people

New Image Laser Eye Centre provides help for those with short-sight

The experience and knowledge of leading eye surgeons from around the world, combined with the latest laser technology can now give people with short sight an alternative to spectacles and contact lenses.

Over 100,000 people now find themselves less dependent on spectacles and contact lenses so that they can perform everyday activities with total confidence, thanks to a proven treatment that can correct the problem of myopia or short-sightedness.

The New Image Laser Eye Centre in London is equipped with the Summit OmniMed Laser System - the only laser to have been recommended for approval by the American FDA Ophthalmic Panel.

A trained clinical optometrist and consultant ophthalmologist conduct a thorough, free examination and counselling to ensure patients are suitable for treatment and offered the ultimate in eye care.

The treatment, PRK (Photorefractive Keratectomy), is clinically precise, using the computer controlled laser to skillfully reshape the cornea. The treatment itself takes up to 30 seconds and is painless. However, you may need follow up treatment and experience some discomfort afterwards.

"We can currently treat people with mild to moderate levels of short-sight", said clinical optometrist Sue Paul. "Anyone over the age of 21 with a stable prescription and healthy eyes can usually be treated. There is no upper age limit and we have achieved a high level of success. During the



Eye examinations of the highest standard

free consultation, we discuss thoroughly with each client how the treatment actually works and could benefit them. We assess their suitability and explain the comprehensive, all-inclusive after care programme."

FREE OPEN MEETINGS

New Image Laser Eye Centre are holding an informal, free Open Meeting on Wednesday 25th January at 1.00pm to explain the successful development of laser eye treatment.

The session includes an introduction to the procedure, a tour round the Centre, an opportunity to meet patients who have been treated and time to deal with your individual questions. "We aim to clear up some of the mystery", says Sue Paul. If you would like more information, or to attend one of our next free Meetings, please Sue Heath - 0171-929 2020, or return the coupon.

NewImage LASER EYE CENTRE

Laser Treatment for Short Sight

Now, in London, you can have normal sight - without glasses or contact lenses. It's fast • It's safe • It's convenient • It's proven • And it's affordable

0171-929 2020

New Image Laser Eye Centre, Plantation House, 31 - 35, Fenchurch Street, London, EC3M 3DX. Clinics also at Edinburgh 0131 320 2040 and Birmingham 0121 714 2240

Please send me further details 720 1 94

Name: _____

Address: _____

Post code: _____

Phone: Day _____ Evening _____

Governor refuses to give files to Peking

FROM JONATHAN MURPHY IN HONG KONG

CHINA'S demand to be given the files on Hong Kong's civil servants has been rejected by Chris Patten, the Governor, as illegal and immoral.

Three days ago Lu Ping, Peking's senior official with responsibility for Hong Kong, threatened that the colony's refusal to hand over the files, almost 900 days before the transfer of sovereignty on July 1, 1997, would result in Chinese action "in which we will not be polite". He was particularly keen to see the records of senior civil servants.

Then came an official warning that failure to hand over the files would imperil the visit to Britain this spring of Qian Qichen, the Chinese Foreign Minister. The trip had been seen as a sign of a thaw in Anglo-Chinese relations.

The Chinese say they want evidence of the nationality of Hong Kong's civil servants, as well as of their integrity. But the civil servants fear that Peking wishes to vet their loyalty.

Mr Patten yesterday pointed the table in the Legislative Council and said: "I don't want there to be a single scintilla of doubt" that the Government will not show Peking evidence of applications by civil servants for British passports. "That is their own business."

Singapore's 'lapdog' press bites back

BY CHRISTOPHER THOMAS

BOOTLICKERS, prostitutes, lapdogs and sycophants: Singapore's newspapers have escaped no epithets. They are, certainly, respectful of authority and there is no need for the Government to control them with crude censorship.

The Straits Times glows with admiration for most things governmental and can be counted on to support official campaigns on anything from saving money to keeping the streets clean. There are, however, stirrings of more robust journalism, to the extent of gentle chiding of the Government.

The Sunday Times, its sister paper, published an article by Catherine Lim, a local author, criticising huge pay increases to ministers and top civil servants.

"Journalists here do not subscribe to the view that we are the fourth estate," said Han Foo Kwang, deputy political editor of The Straits Times, who asked a rather

startling question of himself in an article last week: "How do I live with myself writing this column?" This was in response to a piece in The Asian Wall Street Journal that mocked The Straits Times for pandering to the Government. "Most [foreign] newspapers are beholden to the view of their publishers, to the pandering to populist tastes, [and] that has made many newspapers sink to ever lower levels of gutter journalism," Mr Han wrote.

He noted that a survey in London's Times in 1993 showed that only one in ten people in Britain believed what journalists wrote. "It is from this perspective that Singapore journalists view attacks from their British or American counterparts. We take them with a large pinch of salt."

Mr Han said The Straits Times was pro-Singapore. It

would support any government that was honest, effective and efficient in enhancing Singapore's well-being. He said that The Straits Times had run stories about the political opposition, "but there are four opposition members in the 81-member chamber. The scale of our reporting is proportionate to the range of activity they generate." He noted that journalists in Singapore operated in an environment in which people generally showed respect for authority.

Cheong Yip Seng, the Editor-in-Chief, defended his newspaper in a letter to The Asian Wall Street Journal last week. "We make no bones about what we believe to be Singapore's critical success factors, like thrift, hard work, honesty in government," he said. The paper tried to report the news as accurately as possible and provide a forum for its readers to speak their

minds, "so long as what they say is not defamatory or inflammatory".

David Marshall, an outspoken critic of the Government, has attacked the local press for its timidity, but he says he understands the problems journalists face.

"There is control of the mass media without any cross censorship. The owners of the major newspapers were put into one company, Singapore Press Holdings, which has two types of shares: ordinary and management. No-one who is not approved by the Government can buy management shares. And the directors can only be elected by the management shareholders."

The Government controls what appears on television and has banned satellite dishes. It has also punished several foreign publications in reprisal for articles that caused offence.

China's population reaches 1.2 billion

FROM JAMES FRINGLE IN PEKING

FIVE years earlier than planned, China's population will exceed 1.2 billion by the middle of next month, the official China Daily reported yesterday.

Last year, the population grew by 58,000 a day, or 40 a minute. However, a health official said that 300 million births were averted during the past two decades as a result of the family planning programme launched in 1973, which involves the use of abortion, forced sterilisation and strong encouragement

to use contraceptives. Had the growth rate of 1973 continued, the population would have reached 1.2 billion in 1986 and 1.5 billion by the end of last year, Yang Kuifu, Vice-Minister of the state family planning commission, said. Now the target is to keep the population below 1.3 billion at the end of the century, he added. At present, the population is increasing at an annual rate of 12 million, with about 21 million births each year.

At the same time as it issued yesterday's reports, the Chinese Government gave further assurances that the health of Deng Xiaoping, the country's senior

leader, gave no cause for immediate concern. There was apparent confusion, however, because Deng Rong, Mr Deng's daughter, had been quoted last week as saying there had been a significant decline in her father's health in recent months.

Ms Deng told The New York Times last Friday that her father could neither stand nor walk and that his health was declining day by day. But Shen Guofang, the Foreign Ministry spokesman, said at a weekly news briefing yesterday: "In general, for a man in his nineties, Mr Deng is in good health."

The Power Issue - How to Register.



Share Shops

For a full list of Share Shops, contact one of the Share Shops listed below. If you are unable to contact one of the Share Shops listed below, you may wish to contact the Share Shop nearest to you. The Share Shop nearest to you will be able to provide you with a list of Share Shops in your area. The Share Shop nearest to you will be able to provide you with a list of Share Shops in your area.



Share Offer

TELEPHONE, OR CALL INTO A BRANCH OF, ONE OF THE FOLLOWING BANKS OR BUILDING SOCIETIES:

Barclays Share Shop	0800 000888	National & Provincial Building Society	0800 506070
Lloyds Bank Share Shop	0800 211211	National Westminster Bank	0990 600600
Midland Bank	0345 321005	Norwich & Peterborough Building Society	0800 550088

The Royal Bank of Scotland Share Shop	0800 132138
TSB	0645 470370
Ulster Bank Ltd	0990 600600
Yorkshire Building Society	0800 573573

BY TELEPHONE ONLY:

Bank of Scotland Share Shop
City Deal Services Ltd

0345 321002
01708 739887

Hargreaves Lansdown
Leeds Permanent Building Society
ShareLink Ltd

0800 301301
0800 226566
0121 212 9000

Skipton Building Society
The Share Centre Ltd
YorkSHARE Ltd

0800 310031
0800 800008
0800 736736

OR CONTACT:

Avon	
Albert E Sharp, Bristol	0117 928 0051
Allied Provincial - Laws & Co, Bristol	01752 603377
Brown Shipley Stockbroking Ltd, Bristol	0117 927 6521
Greig Middleton & Co Ltd, Bristol	0117 928 4013
I A Pritchard Stockbrokers Ltd, Bristol	
Weston super Mare, Bristol	01934 413355
J Edward Sellers and Partners Ltd, Bristol	
Neilson Cobbold Ltd, Bristol	0117 956 7822
Rowan & Co, Bristol	0117 925 5353
Rowan Dartington & Co Ltd, Bristol	0117 925 3000
Rowan Dartington & Co Ltd, Bristol	0117 925 3377

Berkshire	
Brown Shipley Stockbroking Ltd, Reading	01734 595511

Buckinghamshire	
BFS Stockbroking, Aylesbury	01296 396833
Waters Lunniss, Milton Keynes	01908 691681

Cambridgeshire	
Allied Provincial, Peterborough	01752 603377
Greig Middleton & Co Ltd, Cambridge	01223 327657
Waters Lunniss, Cambridge, Peterborough	01223 303101

Cleveland	
Allied Provincial - Stanciliffe, Middlesbrough	01752 603377
Wise Speke Ltd, Middlesbrough	0191 201 3990

Cornwall	
Allied Provincial - Westlake & Co, Redruth	01752 603377
Greig Middleton & Co Ltd, Turo	01872 222485

Cumbria	
Allied Provincial, Carlisle	01752 603377
Hargreave Hale & Co, Carlisle	01228 818110
Neilson Cobbold Ltd, Bowness on Windermere	0161 242 5228

Derbyshire	
Nicholson Barber & Co, Chesterfield	0800 413738

Devon	
Allied Provincial - Westlake & Co, Plymouth, Exeter, Torquay	01752 603377
Brown Shipley Stockbroking Ltd, Exeter	01392 423423
Christows Ltd, Exeter	01392 210510
Citywall Financial Mgmt Ltd, Exeter	01392 422582
M D A Investment Mgmt, Exeter	01392 496320
Milton Philip J & Co, Barnstaple	01271 44300
Robson Cottrell Ltd, Torquay	01803 290092
Shaw & Co Ltd, Plymouth	0500 223899
Walker, Crips, Weddle, Beck plc, Newton Abbott	01626 335533

Dorset	
Cave & Sons Ltd, Ferndown	01202 881534
Christows Ltd, Bournemouth, Dorchester	01202 299344
I A Pritchard Stockbrokers Ltd, Bournemouth	01202 297035
M D A Investment Mgmt, Bournemouth	01202 291682
Robson Cottrell Ltd, Bournemouth, Poole, Dorchester	01202 557581

East Sussex	
Adams & Ramers, Lewes	01273 480616
Brown Shipley Stockbroking Ltd, Bexhill on Sea	01424 219111
Donne Miteham & Haddock, Brighton	01273 744597
Durlacher & Co Ltd, Hove	01273 205217
Robson Cottrell Ltd, Eastbourne	01323 738059
Shaw & Co Ltd, Crowborough	0500 223899

Essex	
Branton and Gothard Ltd, Westcliff on Sea	01702 347173
Gerrard Vivian Gray Ltd, Colchester	0800 614858
Redmayne-Bentley, Leigh-on-Sea	01702 470870
Walker, Crips, Weddle, Beck plc, Colchester	01206 769001

Gloucestershire	
Astaire & Partners Ltd, Cheltenham	01242 251000
Brown Shipley Stockbroking Ltd, Gloucester, Cirencester	01452 525444
Redmayne-Bentley, Stroud	01453 758100

Greater Manchester	
Albert E Sharp, Manchester	0161 834 2040
Allied Provincial, Manchester	01752 603377
Arnold, Stansby & Co, Manchester	0161 832 8554
Branton and Gothard Ltd, Manchester	0161 832 2924
Fairmount Stockbrokers, Bolton	01204 362233
Henry Cooke, Lumsden plc, Manchester	0161 834 2332
John Siddall & Son Ltd, Manchester	0161 832 7471
Llewellyn Greenhalgh Stockbrokers, Bolton	01204 21697
Pilling & Co, Manchester	0161 832 8581
Redmayne-Bentley, Manchester	0161 794 8018
Shaw & Co Ltd, Manchester	0161 237 9443
W H Ireland Stephens & Co Ltd, Manchester	0500 223899
Wise Speke Ltd, Manchester	0800 137014
Wise Speke Ltd, Manchester	0191 201 3990

Hampshire	
Allied Provincial, Lynton	01752 603377
Branton and Gothard Ltd, Southampton	01703 229229
John Siddall & Son Ltd, Fareham	01329 288641
Neilson Cobbold Ltd, Southampton, Winchester	0151 242 5353
Shaw & Co Ltd, Southampton	0500 223899

Hereford & Worcester	
Allied Provincial, Hereford	01752 603377
C.J.L. Probate & Financial Services, Droitwich	01905 770481
Harris Alday Lea & Brooks, Worcester	01905 619499
John Siddall & Son Ltd, Malvern	01684 893385

Hertfordshire	
Hoodless Brennan & Partners Ltd, Bishop's Stortford	01279 501502

Humberide	
Allied Provincial, Hull	01752 603377
Redmayne-Bentley, Beverley	01482 864090

Isle of Wight	
Neilson Cobbold Ltd, Newport	0151 242 5228

Kent	
Bracheis (Solicitors), Maidstone	01822 673423
Cripps-Harris Hall, Tunbridge Wells	01892 515121
Foot Devon Investment Consultants Ltd, Tunbridge Wells	01892 549955
Jarvis Investment Mgmt Ltd, Tunbridge Wells	01892 510515
Neilson Cobbold Ltd, Tunbridge Wells	0151 242 5228
Park Equity Services Ltd, Tunbridge Wells	01892 689667
Redmayne-Bentley, Chislehurst	0181 295 1515
Wilkinson Stockbrokers, Hawkhurst	01580 754488

Lancashire	
Hargreave Hale & Co, Blackpool, Preston	01253 21575
Hedley & Co, Blackburn	01254 699333

Leicestershire	
David Butler & Co, Leicester	0116 253 7037
Hill Osborne & Co, Leicester	0116 253 7788
Thomas Grant & Co Ltd, Leicester	0116 255 0535
Wishere Baldwin & Co, Leicester	0116 254 1344

Lincolnshire	
Hill Osborne & Co, Lincoln	01522 525225
Streets Ltd, Lincoln	01522 513311

London	
Albert E Sharp, EC2	0121 233 2035
Allied Provincial, SE1	01752 603377
Augustine Ltd, EC1	0171 606 4525
Barnard M D & Co Ltd, E15, EC3	0181 534 9090
Branton and Gothard Ltd, EC2	0171 614 8400
Brown Shipley Stockbroking Ltd, EC2	0171 726 4059
Chelsea Financial Services Ltd, SW10	0171 351 6022
Christchurch Investment Mgmt Ltd, EC1	0171 726 4057
Dunbar Boyle & Kingsley Ltd, E1	0171 247 8898
Durlacher & Co Ltd, EC2	0171 628 4308
Gerrard Vivian Gray Ltd, WC1	0800 614858
Greig Middleton & Co Ltd, EC2	0171 392 4000
Hargreave Hale & Co, W1	0171 409 0840
Henry Cooke, Lumsden plc, SE1	0171 962 1010
Hoodless Brennan & Partners Ltd, EC2	0171 739 1400
Invesco Private Portfolio Mgmt Ltd, EC2	0171 929 5269
John Siddall & Son Ltd, SE1	0171 237 1090
Keith Bayley Rogers & Co (Stockbrokers), SE1	0171 827 9979
Killick & Co, SW3, EC3, NW3, SW6, W1	0171 384 4400

Laurence Keen, EC4	0171 489 9493
Paul E Schweder Miller & Co, EC2	0171 490 5000
Pershing Securities Ltd, E14	0171 515 0398
Pilling & Co, EC2	0171 613 3000
Raphael Zorn Hemaley Ltd, EC2	0171 628 4000
Redmayne-Bentley, EC4	0171 489 9855
S P Angel & Co, EC3	0171 417 7757
Shaw & Co Ltd, EC2	0500 223899
Walker, Crips, Weddle, Beck plc, EC1	0171 253 7502
Waters Lunniss, WC1, EC2	0171 405 4885
Westons Securities Ltd, EC3	0171 283 8468
Wise Speke Ltd, EC2	0191 201 3990

Merseyside	
Neilson Cobbold Ltd, Liverpool	0151 242 5228
Richard Bamber and Co, Formby, Liverpool	01704 833824

Northfolk	
Barnatt & Cooke, Norwich	01603 610280
Greig Middleton & Co Ltd, Norwich	01603 760228
Waters Lunniss, Norwich	01603 622265

North Yorkshire	
Cawood, Smith & Co, Harrogate	01423 530035
Greig Middleton & Co Ltd, York	01904 647911
Hill Osborne & Co, Scarborough	01723 372478
Redmayne-Bentley, Harrogate	01423 528888

Northamptonshire	
Cave & Sons Ltd, Northampton	01604 21421
Waters Lunniss, Northampton	01604 602998

Nottinghamshire	
Allied Provincial - William Chapman Trease & Co, Nottingham	01752 603377
Barnatt & Cooke, Mansfield	01623 23568
Thomas Grant & Co Ltd, Nottingham	0115 941 1301
Waters Lunniss, Nottingham	0115 950 3666

Oxfordshire	
Brown Shipley Stockbroking Ltd, Oxford	01885 243581
Harris Alday Lea & Brooks, Banbury	01295 262582
Redmayne-Bentley, Henley on Thames	01491 411022

Shropshire	
Harris Alday Lea & Brooks, Bridgnorth, Ludlow	01746 761444

Somerset	
Barnard M D & Co Ltd - Barnard Marsh, Wells	01749 679877
Neilson Cobbold Ltd, Taunton	0151 242 5228

South Yorkshire	
Durlacher & Co Ltd, Rotherham	01708 368490
Nicholson Barber & Co, Sheffield, Doncaster	0800 413738

Staffordshire	
Cameron McDonald (Asset Mgmt) Ltd, Newcastle under Lyme, Lichfield	01782 628911
Claverley Hyde Financial Mgmt Ltd, Stoke on Trent, Newcastle under Lyme, Stone	01782 205501
P H Pope & Son Stockbrokers, Stoke on Trent	01782 202154

Suffolk	
Birkett Westorp & Long (Solicitors), Ipswich	01473 232300
Branton and Gothard Ltd, Bury St Edmunds	01284 704114
Gerrard Vivian Gray Ltd, Ipswich	0800 614858
Redmayne-Bentley, Bury St Edmunds	01284 723761
Walker, Crips, Weddle, Beck plc, Stowmarket	01449 771882

Surrey	
Assets International Mgmt, Tadworth	01737 830010
Greig Middleton & Co Ltd, Guildford	01483 300585

Tyne & Wear	
Allied Provincial - John S Smith & Co, Newcastle upon Tyne	01752 603377
Wise Speke Ltd, Newcastle upon Tyne	0191 201 3990

West Midlands	
Albert E Sharp, Birmingham	0121 233 2035
Allied Provincial - Smith Keen Murray, Birmingham	01752 603377

Belleini & Draysey Stockbrokers Ltd, Birmingham	0121 233 0900
Claverley Hyde Financial Mgmt Ltd, Wolverhampton	01782 205501
Fyshe Horton Finney Ltd, Birmingham	0121 236 3111
Harris Alday Lea & Brooks, Birmingham	0121 625 0008
Hawthorne Securities Ltd, Birmingham	0121 236 4088
Roy James & Co, Birmingham	0121 200 2200
Shakespeare Solicitors, Birmingham	0121 643 4853
Shaw & Co Ltd, Birmingham	0500 223899
Walker, Crips, Weddle, Beck plc, Solihull	01564 770588

West Sussex	
Brown Shipley Stockbroking Ltd, Chichester	01243 786472
Hoodless Brennan & Partners Ltd, Worthing	01903 820520
Neilson Cobbold Ltd, Chichester	0151 242 5353

West Yorkshire	
Broadbridge (Stockbrokers), Leeds	0113 242 2211
Henry Cooke, Lumsden plc, Leeds	0113 243 9011
Hill Osborne & Co, Bradford	01274 728866
Redmayne-Bentley, Leeds	0113 243 6941
Wise Speke Ltd, Leeds	0191 201 3990

Wiltshire	
Henry Cooke, Lumsden plc, Marlborough	01672 861669

SCOTLAND	
Dumfries & Galloway	
Bell Lawrie White, Dumfries	01387 252361

Grampian Region	
Abstrut Bell Lawrie Ltd, Aberdeen	01224 589345
Cooper & Hay, Aberdeen	01224 573344

Highland Region	
Redmayne-Bentley, Inverness	01483 772072
Stirling Hendry & Co, Inverness	01483 220113

Lothian Region	
Albyn Investments Ltd, Edinburgh	0131 220 0592
Allied Provincial - Parsons Penny, Edinburgh	01752 603377
Bell Lawrie White, Edinburgh	0131 225 2586
Greig Middleton & Co Ltd, Edinburgh	0131 228 1234
Neilson Cobbold Ltd, Edinburgh	0151 242 5353
Torrie & Co, Edinburgh	0131 225 1766

Strathclyde Region	
Allied Provincial - Parsons Penny, Glasgow	01752 603377
Greig Middleton & Co Ltd, Glasgow	0141 221 8103
Redmayne-Bentley, Glasgow	0141 248 8941
Stirling Hendry & Co, Glasgow	0141 248 6033

Tayside Region	
Allied Provincial, Dundee	01752 603377
Redmayne-Bentley, Perth	01738 441144
Stirling Hendry & Co, Dundee	01382 226282

WALES	
Chryd	
Allied Provincial, Colwyn Bay	01752 603377

Gwynedd	
Hargreave Hale & Co, Bangor	01248 353242
Henry Cooke, Lumsden plc, Llandudno	01492 874391

South Glamorgan	
Allied Provincial, Cardiff	01752 603377

NORTHERN IRELAND	
Cunningham Coates Ltd, Belfast	01232 237142
D M Wright & Partners, Londonderry	01504 263344
Magennis & Co, Newry	01693 64317

CHANNEL ISLANDS	
Guernsey	
Rowan & Co Ltd, St Peter Port	01481 51515

A lesson from the mates Down Under

How would we behave if faced by a disaster such as Kobe?

I watched yesterday's television images of the appalling Japanese earthquake damage in the company of a Californian and an Australian. It was rather humbling as I could only guess at something they both knew from experience: they knew what it means to live in a place where the whim of mighty nature can suddenly obliterate the cosiest of human nesting places, be those humans never so rich or knowing. They hadn't had time to forget, either. It's exactly a year since the Los Angeles earthquake and the fires that nearly ate Sydney.

The Californian looked uncomfortable as we watched the citizens of Kobe sharing their rice cakes and forming orderly end-less queues for water. 90 per cent of Japanese regard themselves as middle-class and here they all were, bankers and bakers, conducting themselves like responsible bourgeois. He was remembering the looting and mayhem after the LA quake.

The Australian by contrast waxed sentimental about community spirit and the phenomenon of Aussie mateship. It emerged again through the smoke last January with jolly blackened faces as 23,000 trained volunteer fire-fighters dropped everything and ran to save Sydney. This they did magnificently, virtually without loss of life. Some things went wrong, of course: groups were dropped by helicopter on blazing hillsides and left to battle on for days until someone remembered to bring food and tents, but they didn't whinge as a Pom might. And they certainly didn't loot.

The Australian's pride was justified. Travelling through New South Wales

and Queensland earlier this month, I noticed dozens of makeshift indicators. Every little town welcomed you with a large sign displaying the logos of a dozen voluntary organisations. Even one-store villages had recycling bins for rubbish and toy depots for the children of drought-stricken farmers, patches of carefully guarded rainforest and, of course, meeting places for the part-time fire-fighters to train after work against the hour when bush fires would try to undo the fruits of all this voluntary work. Every inhabitant, you felt, must be a Lion or a Roararian, a member of the Country Woman's Association or a Salvation Army helper.

Some of the makeshift signs make you smile and sometimes wince. Only in a vast empty country would the universal valediction among passing strangers be "See you later, mate".

And surely this business of cosily abbreviating everything has gone too far. I was completely stumped when the Aussie Earl of Stradbroke threatened to sue his "prof ads". Light only dawned when he gave the names of his accountants and solicitors.

Never mind the linguistic foibles. In Australia, unlike America, the frontier spirit survives to face down fire, drought and numerous other reminders of nature's malevolence. In some places the drought that began to break last month had gone on for an unimaginable six years. And, tragically, the bank foreclosed on hundreds of farmers only weeks before the first rain fell. Unlike us, Australians are a tough matey lot. I dread to think how we'd be if Britain had earthquakes. Worse than the Californians, I fear.



MARGOT NORMAN

Ruth Runciman has spent 20 years working with 'the sad, mad and bad'

'I may be helping our own burglars even now'

It speaks volumes about Lady Runciman that although she is entitled to travel first class, she never does. "I worked it out," she says. "If I go second class, we save enough to pay for eight extra days of visits to mental hospitals."

This week she chaired her first meeting of the Mental Health Act Commission, having taken over from Louis Blom-Cooper at a time when avoidable tragedies (such as the death of Georgina Robinson, stabbed by a schizophrenic) strike new fear into the public heart over the catastrophic failures of the Mental Health Act.

Lady Runciman heads a team of 90 dedicated commissioners: psychiatrists, lawyers, social workers and lay people. Even before the Blom-Cooper report on Monday, the Commission had decided to increase its visits to hospitals and to individual patients, and to see that "leave" practices are tightened. (Georgina Robinson's killer was on a shopping trip leave when he bought his knife.)

What Ruth Runciman is most anxious about is that the fear of crime, which already blights society, now extends to the fear of mental illness.

"I'm afraid there is a statistical terrorism inflicted on our society by crime figures — and I speak as someone who was recently burgled for the tenth time." The burglars got in through the front door while the Runcimans slept, and took all their Christmas presents. "But it's essential not to be anything other than measured in one's response," she says. "I dare say I may be helping the burglars in Wormwood Scrubs even now." (One of her jobs is running an outreach Citizens Advice Bureau at the Scrubs.)

THE VALERIE GROVE INTERVIEW



The Commission meets in Nottingham every Wednesday, so we met on the 8am train. She is a tall, handsome South African with a sharp wit, who has spent 20 years sitting on committees to do with the care of "the sad, the mad and the bad". (When Lord Shaftesbury was given her job in Victorian times, he was known as "the lunacy commissioner". Ruth Runciman rather wishes she could be called that today.)

She was brought up in the vibrant political and intellectual Jewish community of Johannesburg. Her mother, Ellen Hellmann — whose own father had arrived from Bavaria as a messenger boy, and prospered to become the first Jew admitted to the exclusive Rand Club — was an anthropologist, the first woman to gain a doctorate at the University of the Witwatersrand, the first to work in an African township, a founder of the Progressive Party, an influential race relations wallah who — if her warnings had only been heeded — could have saved South Africa from 40 years of apartheid. She died in 1982, too soon to see the fulfilment of her work, which is why her daughter has found

herself unable to face going back.

Ruth went to Johannesburg's Roodepan, currying to teachers and calling them madam and receiving an excellent education under the English headmistress, Miss Le Maître, that left her "with two history degrees, highly educated and wholly unemployable". She should have become a doctor or a lawyer. "I've never been ambitious, and I've had an interesting life, but I've always regretted not having had a modest career."

She came to Britain and to Gorton, in whose corridors she felt especially alien, friendless and unwelcome when she saw, pinned to the door of the great Shakespearean scholar M.C. Bradbrook, a notice: "Miss Bradbrook will be at home to Christians on Sunday night."

In Cambridge she married the distinguished historian Denis Mack Smith, but three years later she fell in love with Garry Runciman, fellow of Trinity.

She married Runciman at San Francisco's City Hall, where everyone seemed to be too busy to conduct a wedding. "We eventually found a traffic judge, who conducted some sort of negotiation on the telephone in the middle of the ceremony, and who admonished my father-in-law [the 2nd Viscount Runciman] for signing the register with only his surname."

She then settled down to domestic life in St John's Wood. "I had three children in four years and was priggish about help. I didn't want to work except in the most humble and voluntary way."

But the humble voluntary work with the Citizens Advice Bureau in Hackney revealed that what she did best was helping people to their rights, benefits and responsibilities. Today, the borough of Kensington and Chelsea pays her as a CAB advice worker, which includes work among pensioners at Wormwood Scrubs, where she was on Tuesday, helping prisoners with problems over their families' rent, access to their children...

Twenty years ago the then Home Secretary, Roy Jenkins, spotted her potential great-and-goodness and appointed her to the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs. She discovered that her skill is to get people of divergent expertise to work together. "It's what I can do. I can't speak in public. I can't write, but the one thing I have a feeling for is working with people in a common cause."

With a group of friends including Mark Bonham Carter she founded the Prison Reform Trust. She deplores the rise in the imprisonment of women — up by 40 per cent in two years, the vast majority of whom would be better doing community service. Her five years on the board of English National Opera represent the only time she was on a committee, that was "straight fun".

Ruth Runciman is a good example of the "who can we think of?" ad-hocery of English establishment life, currently under scrutiny by Lord Nolan. There are far more women like her, she points out, but the same three or four get appointed to boards and panels. "The rolling stone gathers all the moss. Yet this country is stuffed full of talented and competent women who are not promoted. I feel very strongly about that."

Her husband, the 3rd Viscount Runciman — of the Runciman Royal Commission on Criminal Justice — chairs a large multinational company, is deputy chairman of the Securities and Investments Board, treasurer of the Child Poverty Action group and a fellow of Trinity. "And he writes books, in longhand. He works all the time, but never complains, never says he's too busy. It's partly his impressive intellect, so he can understand things quicker. He is the most rational man that's ever lived." Friends who have shared Tus-

I've always regretted not having had a modest career'

can holidays report that while others are pushing each other in the pool, Garry Runciman is intemperately reading a theoretical history of the social order.

His wife's new job is to be the "eyes and ears of the Health Secretary". For her, the faultline in the community care system is the failure to provide proper structures to replace the old institutions. "If you're going to compel people to aftercare, then I feel passionately there is a moral obligation also to provide all the things they need: hostels and group houses, for people who want to learn to live independently, occupation, income, company, purposeful activity. At the moment the aftercare discharge plans are often cursory, the services aren't

there to make them seriously effective and organisationally tight. It's a huge job. And we have to resource it."

She points out that the greatest risk attached to severe mental illness is to the patients themselves. "Georgina Robinson's was a terrible death, not to be underplayed for a moment, but there were about a dozen suicides in the last three years at that centre."

"As for crisis facilities, these tend to be open from nine to five, Monday to Friday, and mental illness strikes at any time: above all on Christmas Day, when people feel more marginalised than ever."

I asked about her own Christmas, after the burglary. "Oh, we had a jolly Christmas after all. Because we are such privileged people we rushed out and bought more presents, but all I could think of was, supposing this had happened to a poor family? One spends one's life thinking about these disparities, and one's good fortune."

Lady Runciman: "There is a statistical terrorism inflicted on society by crime figures"

can holidays report that while others are pushing each other in the pool, Garry Runciman is intemperately reading a theoretical history of the social order.

His wife's new job is to be the "eyes and ears of the Health Secretary". For her, the faultline in the community care system is the failure to provide proper structures to replace the old institutions. "If you're going to compel people to aftercare, then I feel passionately there is a moral obligation also to provide all the things they need: hostels and group houses, for people who want to learn to live independently, occupation, income, company, purposeful activity. At the moment the aftercare discharge plans are often cursory, the services aren't

there to make them seriously effective and organisationally tight. It's a huge job. And we have to resource it."

She points out that the greatest risk attached to severe mental illness is to the patients themselves. "Georgina Robinson's was a terrible death, not to be underplayed for a moment, but there were about a dozen suicides in the last three years at that centre."

"As for crisis facilities, these tend to be open from nine to five, Monday to Friday, and mental illness strikes at any time: above all on Christmas Day, when people feel more marginalised than ever."

I asked about her own Christmas, after the burglary. "Oh, we had a jolly Christmas after all. Because we are such privileged people we rushed out and bought more presents, but all I could think of was, supposing this had happened to a poor family? One spends one's life thinking about these disparities, and one's good fortune."



How to register for your share of the Power Issue.

To receive a prospectus and an application form, phone us 24 hours a day on 0345 321 005. Alternatively, you can complete the coupon below or simply visit your local Midland branch. If you've already received a Registration Card, you can send it, or the coupon below, to Midland Bank Share Shop, FREEPOST No. 9017, Bristol BS3 5BR. Use this coupon to register up to four people living at your home address. To register any person under 18 years of age (20 in Jersey), write the full name of the parent (or grandparent or guardian) followed by the initials of the child in the space indicated:

Title	Forenames (in full)	Surname	Child's initials	Shareholder number (if applicable)
Registration address (for all the above named)				
Postcode				
Phone				



MIDLAND
The Listening Bank
Member HSBC Group

Call Midland 24 hours a day on 0345 321 005

This advertisement is issued by, and is solely the responsibility of, Midland Bank plc. Midland Bank plc is a member of SFL. AR/88

FINAL EXECUTION OF A DRASTIC DISPOSAL ORDER

Short Notice of a Very Important Unreserved Disposal Auction

of 134 Bales - Bill of Lading No 696-8981-1461

Now have been cleared from HM Customs and Excise bond VAT added duties paid together with a carefully assembled consignment of exceptionally fine and medium quality hand-made carpets.

PERSIAN, ISLAMIC AND ORIENTAL CARPETS, RUGS, RUNNERS AND KILIMS

By order of trustees, acting for an on behalf of Chamber of Commerce of Persia in conjunction with collection order and remitting fund to the Central Pledge Bank in Iran having met the guaranteed bill of payment by an Independent Financial Institute. Benefited from extreme devaluation of Persian money against the major baskets of currencies final decision has been taken to fill the reserve and reduce the prices drastically to ensure complete disposal.

Venue 1
Sat 21st Jan 95 at 3.00 pm (View from 2.00 pm) at
Swallow International Hotel, 147 Cromwell
Road, South Kensington, London S.W.5

Venue 2
Sun 22nd Jan 95 at 11.00 am (View from 10.00 am) at
Thames Hotel, Ray Mead Road, (Off A4
Bridge Road) Maidenhead, Berkshire.

Venue 3
Sun 22nd Jan 95 at 4.30 pm (View from 3.30 pm) at
Whites Hotel, 92 Lancaster Gate, Bayswater,
London W.2

Inventory includes old antique and contemporary Persian and other eastern hand knotted pile and flat weave rugs in wool and silk of outstanding merit and quality.

Independent Arbitrator and Fine Art Auctioneers.
M. Shokri and Associates Ltd, Tel: 081 202 1513

Norman Hammond on the newly discovered prehistoric cave paintings



A Grotte Chauvet painting, discovered last month: they occur not in well-lit living areas but mostly in dark, inaccessible places which suggests they are not giant wall-menus

The discovery of an elaborately decorated cave in France, with prehistoric wall paintings of bison, rhinoceros and other animals still as fresh as when they were executed 20,000 years ago, reminds us that our Ice Age ancestors may have lived a simple life, but were anything but simple-minded. Their portrayals of the beasts that they hunted show astute observation of animal behaviour, as well as a range of artistic expression unparalleled for centuries thereafter.

The first cave art finds, in northern Spain and southwestern France in the 1870s, were dismissed by many scholars as fakes. Marcelino de Saubola, who found Altamira, with its great ceiling paintings of plunging and stampeding bison, was dismissed as a fraud when he reported his find in 1880, and it took until early this century for the last diehards to be convinced. Of French professional archaeologists, only Gabriel de Mortillet was brave enough to proclaim from the beginning: "C'est l'enfance de l'art, ce n'est pas l'art de l'enfant."

Much of the vital investigation took place in caves around the village of Les Eyzies in the

Dordogne, where the Cro-Magnon rock-shelter yielded prehistoric human remains that gave their name to our own modern sub-species. Excavations at La Mouthe, Font de Gaume and La Vache showed indisputably that palaeolithic occupation layers covered and concealed paintings, which must predate the older still.

Today the history of European cave art goes back some 30 centuries, and can be traced from simple black and red line drawings at La Vache to the polychrome masterpieces of Lascaux and Altamira. More than 90 per cent of the art, scholars estimate, was created in the Magdalenian period between about 19,000 and 10,000 years ago to which both sites, and the newly discovered Grotte Chauvet, belong.

Dark secrets of the Ice Age artist

The threat to paintings unseen and untouched for millennia has led the most spectacular recent discoveries to be ruled off-limits from the start: the Grotte Cosquer near Marseilles can be entered only through a drowned entrance passage, and there are no plans to make it more accessible. Its wealth of art, even now the subject of scholarly controversy — the current issue of the journal *Antiquity* has a vigorous debate over the markings and precise identification of great aurochs and other birds portrayed on its walls — is known only from photographs and drawings.

Jean Clottes, doyen of French cave-art scholars, estimated yesterday that the new Grotte Chauvet could take 30 years to document and publish, and in spite of pressure from tourism interests in the

Ardèche region, it too will stay closed.

Their studies may make it possible to open a window into the mind of Ice Age man in Europe, and understand the motives that led to the creation of the marvels of Lascaux and the Grotte Chauvet. Nearly a century ago the first tentative interpretations of the French and Spanish caves took inspiration from ethnography, and suggested that the art was a form of sympathetic magic.

By controlling the image of the animal, the idea went, one could control the animal itself, and thereby obtain success in the hunt. Certainly, the bulk of the paintings are of animals, and of precisely the species most frequently and successfully hunted by palaeolithic man, if the bones recovered from ancient middens are anything to go by. Bison, aurochs (the huge native European cattle, now extinct), red deer, reindeer, horse and mammoth predominate on what some scholars still see as just a form of giant wall-menu.

But there are problems:



Ice Age man: far from simple-minded

most of the art occurs not in well-lit living areas, but deep into dark caves, sometimes in places accessible only in discomfort and danger. Oil-lamps and pine torches would have been the only forms of illumination.

Clearly, ritual played a great role as subsistence: one theory is that, because most of the animals shown are large, herd-grazing herbivores which would have required co-operation among otherwise competing human groups for a successful hunt, the paintings were created as part of a rite of social solidarity.

In support of this is the scarcity of reindeer in the art, compared with their abundance in the bone layers which show where the meat actually came from: as the modern Sami (Lapps) demonstrate, a single hunter can approach and kill a reindeer at close quarters without frightening the rest of the herd; thus inter-family co-operation would not

be needed for reindeer hunting.

Any credible hypothesis needs to account not only for the emphasis on edible animals in the majority of caves, but the virtual absence of humans, plants, and carnivores such as bears and felines. Humans did not eat the latter, but they would certainly

have respected them. The report of leopard, panther and rhinoceros from the Grotte Chauvet suggests a new slant on this old problem.

Some of the paintings may reflect a palaeolithic world view or mythic history, a "dream time" before the harsh reality of their present: the abundance of animals may indeed have been wished-for rather than observed. It may have been a way of making dinner more approachable in the mind and thus, with luck, in the hunt as well. Whatever the answers, if answers ever emerge from what Kipling called "the dim red dawn of man", the art of the Ice Age is an impressive reminder that our forebears were as creative, and as cognitive, as ourselves.

Unadventurous adventurers miss the point

Surely an affair should be with someone different?

Ken Dunn was only 56 when he died: a mournful thing, not to be mocked. However, since his wife and mistress have gone public with their lawsuit over who shall be buried next to him, they must accept that the rest of us are irresistibly and tastelessly fascinated. For Mr Dunn is revealed as the epitome of a familiar type: not a serial monogamist but a photocopy polygamist. He led not a double life but a twin one.

For 30 years he lived partly with his wife — greying curly hair, with big square spectacles — and partly with his mistress, Ms Cooper: greying curly hair, two years older, more big square specs. The women acknowledged one another with guarded tolerance: they had a lot in common. On weekdays Mr Dunn lived at Ms Cooper's; at weekends with his wife.

The houses are similar: Mrs Dunn says that he built identical kitchen extensions at each and used the same wallpaper in the living room. Both houses had their windows replaced at the same time; in each, he put his car keys and watch in the same place on the mantelpiece. Both homes had dogs called Kim: it is not known whether they were aware of each other's existence, and if so, whether they were offended.

Such unadventurous adventures are all around us. Certain men have an uncanny knack for pairing off with the same woman over and over again in different editions. It may be genetically explicable in young bachelors who know their "type": an old flatmate of mine dated a bewildering succession of air hostesses with dazzling smiles and blonde bobs, so that the only way we could sort them out

was by airlines. Communal dinner parties were prefaced by panicky whispers of "I know it's Dan Air, but is it Sharon or Sian?"

More baffling is the older man who disentangles himself from an unhappy marriage and immediately takes up with a clone of his wife: another commanding redhead, another giggly clinger, another intense neurotic. The idea of a man abandoning a frump for a glamourpuss is popular, but not as often accurate as you would think. Film stars may take the trophy-wife route, probably because they need not see all that much of them. Ordinary men are more likely to sign up with someone so like the previous model that they get the names muddled and have to resort to "darling", much as Mr Dunn called both dogs Kim and grand Edwardian ladies used to insist that

their maids be called Betty. It is the duplicate domesticity, though, which is weirdest. I once temped in an office with a man whose long-standing mistress rang up just as often as his wife to nag him about bringing home the dry-cleaning. They both had buggies, and he used to pick up two lots of food from the corner pet shop.

When I left, he was courting again, and a colleague swore she overheard him on the phone to the new woman, obediently asking if there was anything he could collect for her. I bet he bought her a budgie.

Maybe we should accept it as a sincere form of flattery. Women are forever discontentedly planning fresh starts and new lives. Far more insulting, when you come to think of it, than just wanting more of the same.

LIBBY PURVES

MULTIYORK WINTER SALE

OFFERS END NEXT WEEKEND

UP TO 1/3 OFF
MADE TO ORDER
SOFAS AND CHAIRS

Our beautifully handmade furniture has always been exceptional value, but it has never been more affordable than now. For a short period you can choose from a selection of classic sofas for under £1000. And there are many other superb offers in our Winter Sale too. The highest quality furniture at truly remarkable prices.

FURTHER REDUCTIONS
NOW 25% OFF most items from our range of reproduction furniture in oak, cherry, mahogany and yew.

WINTER SPECIAL

HALF PRICE
Carver chair when you purchase any mahogany or yew dining table and 4 chairs.

2 FREE
Ladder back chairs when you purchase any oak dining table and 4 chairs.

MULTIYORK

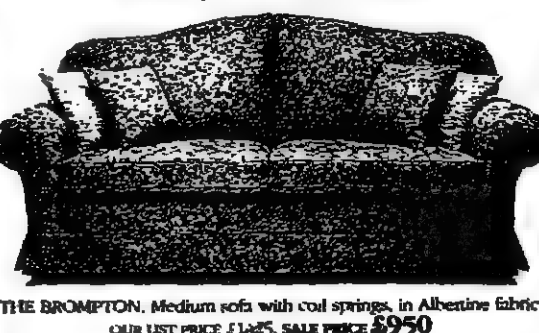
Visit your local MultiYork showroom. Open daily to 5.30pm. Saturday to 6pm. Sunday 10.30am to 4.30pm.

Southampton late night opening Thursday and Friday until 8.00pm.

MULTIYORK CLASSICS
FOR UNDER £1000.



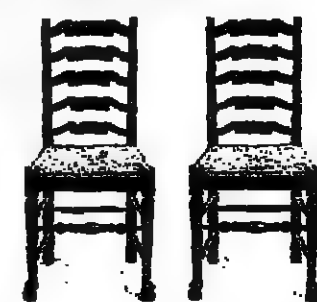
THE CARLTON. Large sofa with serpentine springs, in August fabric. OUR LIST PRICE £1295. SPECIAL SALE PRICE £775



THE BROMPTON. Medium sofa with coil springs, in Albertine fabric. OUR LIST PRICE £1245. SALE PRICE £950



All our covers are beautifully tailored to fit, yet fully removable for cleaning or to update your suite with your decor. Special offers on additional sets of covers.



10

Everest's January Sale

25% OFF

Call us today

For a warmer, quieter, more secure home. This January is the perfect time to invest in the best. Because you will get an amazing 25% off Everest's complete range of home improvement products.

No small print

No catches, no strings or minimum order value, just 25% off every order placed in January for all our windows, doors and Roofline products. It even applies to Heatlok, the most advanced double glazing system available, which gives twice the heat saving of regular double glazing.

First Choice Finance

If you want finance, we can also help. We can offer an unsecured finance facility subject to status. Written details are available on request.

You only fit double glazing once, so fit the best - Everest.

YES Please tell me how I can claim 25% off Everest's products.

Everest
FIT THE BEST
Everest House, FREEPOST,
Cuffley, Hertfordshire EN6 4YA.
30th Anniversary
30 Years of Excellence

Call Free 0800 010123

please quote ref J535

Name: Mr/Ms/Miss

Address

Postcode

Please Tel No

Philip Howard



A new dictionary will help us to avoid confusing our foreign friends

Herman the German speaks as gutturally as your neighbour in the window seat on the Glasgow Super-Shuttle using the sick-bag: "Ich bin ein student of your unsympathetic English, and I overheard these false friends of yours. Their ratio and politics irritate me. Why does your English receipt for marmalade have oranges and lemons, but never strawberries or apricots? On the other hand, why do you call Christmas pudding and bread-and-butter puddings and your other disgusting sweet messes puddings? Any German knows that the Pudding means one thing only, the sloppy milk shape you euphemise as blancmange. No wonder foreigners call the English 'puddings'. Zis is my reclamation."

The German *Reklamation* means a query or complaint. *Marmelade* in German is jam made from any sort of fruit, not just oranges. In German *irritieren* means to confuse someone. Although a laborious student, Herman has been taken in by several other false English friends. A false friend is a word in a foreign language which looks or sounds like a word in your own language but has a different meaning. When Herman says *Ratio* he means reason, and *Politik* means policy for him. In German "overhear" means to be tired of hearing something.

False friends are created by two causes. Many English words started from the same origins as similar words in other Indo-European languages, but have developed different meanings. Words start changing their meanings for native speakers separated by as little as a river or a parish boundary. They are changed much more and more strangely by a sea or national frontier. For example, "sensible" in English looks like *sensibile* (French, Spanish) and *sensibel* (German, Danish, Norwegian, Swedish). But it does not have the same meaning. In these other languages, the words mean the same as the English "sensitive". A preservative "may" mean a substance to keep jam or bodies fresh in English. But in Italian, French, Spanish, German, Danish, Czech, Polish and Russian it means a condom. In French, *Condom* is a town or a rugby-player.

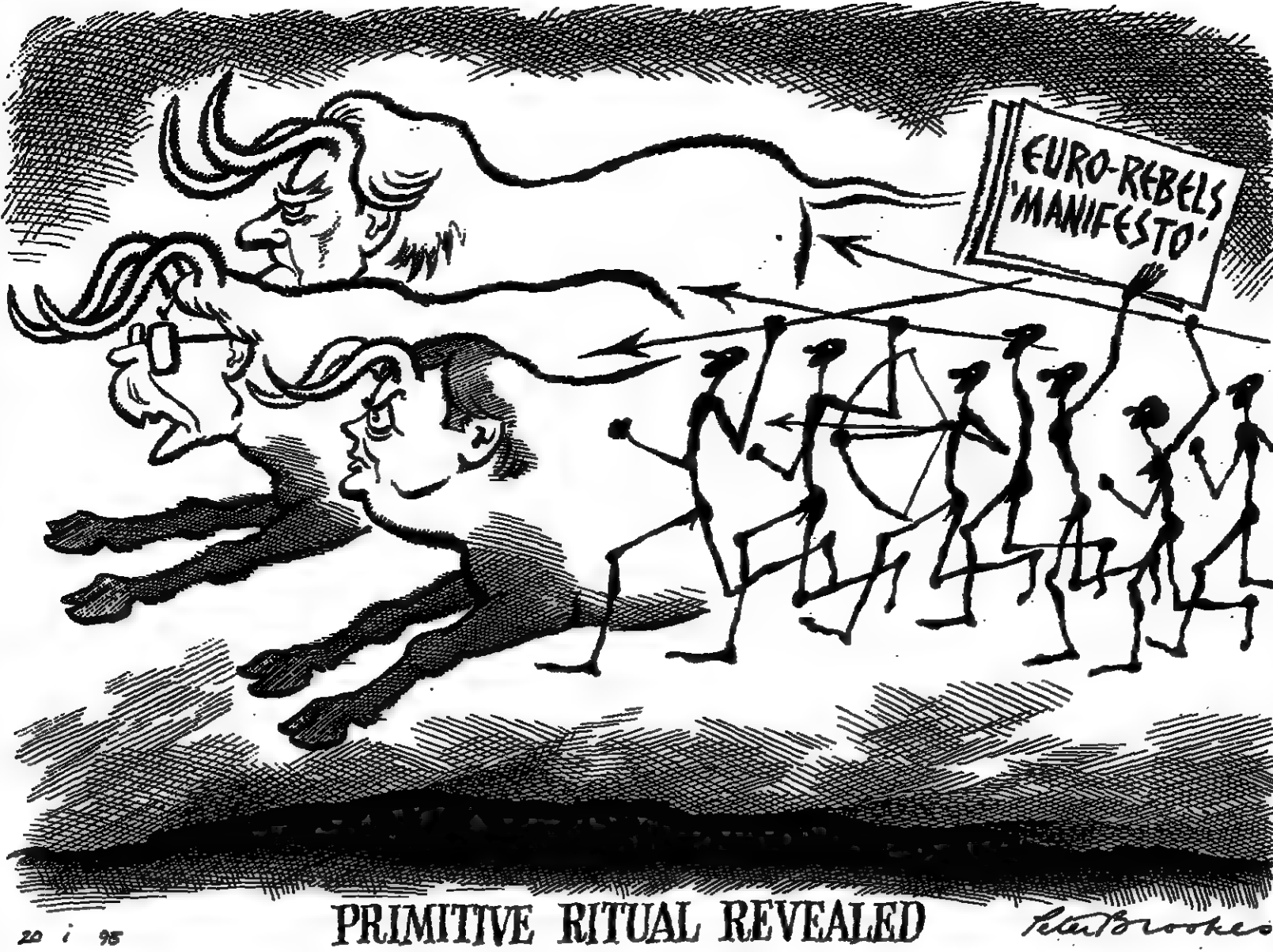
The second way in which false friends let learners down is when English words have been borrowed by other languages for new purposes. For example, "super" has been switched by several other languages, but not to mean a police superintendent or the jolly-hockey-sticks and old-fashioned English expression of delight. In Japanese and Korean, *super* means a supermarket. In Thai, to confuse us, it means unleaded petrol.

Sabine, the Frenchwoman, speaks: "I ignore (don't know) the traffic (funny business) of your distracting (entertaining) language, by which you call my *scotch* Sello-tape, and my *blouse* means a woman's bodice instead of an overall or a snooker pocket."

Such false friends and traitors of idiom and accent mean that only brilliant linguists (such as George Steiner, who does not quite know what his first language is) are ever going to speak a second language without betraying that they are not to the mannerism born. The best way to learn a language is to live with the native-speakers. But computers are making second languages as well as many other things easier for us all.

To make a dictionary, once upon a Samuel, poor drudges toiled over slips in garrets for decades, rubbing their eyesight and their handwriting. A modern computer can in a minute rifle through a database of language vaster than they dreamt of in nightmares, identifying false friends for different languages, finding the frequency of collocations (*rain is heavy* rather than *strong*, *tea is strong* rather than *powerful*), and marking the most common errors of Herman and how they differ from Sabine's and Kazuo's.

Next month, Cambridge University Press is launching a new line of English-language reference books with its *International Dictionary of English*. This will vex Oxford University Press and others who have been longer in the field. It may be one of the last great dictionaries between hard covers before computers and screens take over. But the public market for dictionaries is inexhaustible. Welcome this latest exposé of *amis faux* and other wonderful quirks and quarks of language.



PRIMITIVE RITUAL REVEALED

Imagine: Levin & Levin

Anyone could be an advertising executive like the Saatchis — I nearly fell into the trap myself — but what a bogus business it is

Now, now, now, now! You didn't think, did you, that I would — nay, that I could — keep out of the Saatchi business? Shame on you if you did! For it is one of those rare but immensely delightful upshots in which to my eye everybody involved is perfectly awful. So awful, indeed, that it is impossible for those on the sidelines (which means everyone except the Saatchis and their opponents) to take sides. But to make sure, I have ordered, all on my coast, a huge quantity of deckchairs and ice-cream cones.

Let's start with the Saatchis themselves. Who are they? If you look in *Who's Who* you will get a considerable shock. For Saatchi the elder (Charles) gives barely three lines which tell us nothing, not even the names of his parents, and his junior (Maurice) adds nothing except that he studied at LSE. (Well, so did I, but I'm not awful.)

The only Saatchis in the Business section of the phone-book are all offshoots of the Saatchi empire itself, and there is no Saatchi at all in the personal book. (Mind you, there are only three Raskins in the book, and all of them are my family; but at least I know where I come from, and I am not too shy to tell the world.) Until the Saatchis tell us, then, I shall go about saying that they started in the stews of Cairo, barely getting a livelihood by selling used carpets.

But did you see the letter, published in full in *The Times*, in which Saatchi junior vented his spleen (for something like 40 years I have waited for an opportunity to get that phrase into something I am writing, and at last I have succeeded)? Why don't people in the spleen-venting business stop a moment and consult me? The letter was a savage assault upon the villains (as Saatchi would think them), and I dare say he went to bed well pleased by the number of wounds he counted upon his enemies. But I could have told him, and would have told him if, as I say, he had listened to me. Because, his head buried in the pseudo-science of advertising, he could not understand that when there is a battle, and it is manifestly won by X, anything said by Y in the form of squealing or shouting or screaming, let alone all three, is discounted in its entirety, having been instantly stored by the bystanders in the file labelled *sour grapes*.

Anyway, advertising is a pseudo-science, and anybody with a bit of

imagination and intelligence could succeed in it. And — I bet you didn't know this — I tried my hand at it, many years ago, with enormous success, and would have wiped out the entire clan Saatchi if I had continued.

It was like this. My beloved friend Sidney Bernstein was an iconoclast, among other things, and he delighted in classing the lions. Sidney loved his Granada television station passionately, but he also loved to pull the rug from under the experts, and he had got into his head that the experts were wrong when they said that it was a waste of money to push the advertising in the

ago, there was a serious and striking and impartial American newspaper which eschewed advertising altogether; it died, of course, but it lived for an astonishingly long time.

Where was it? Well, all at sea. For a start, I am bewildered by the fact that both sides are calling themselves Saatchi; for instance, among the thousands of headlines floating about like snowflakes, one massive one read "Saatchi agency sues Maurice and defectors"; but how can Saatchi sue Maurice when Maurice is the bloke in the middle being sued? Worse still: "Mr Maurice Saatchi... this week announced his intention of setting up in competition with Saatchi and Saatchi." And all of a sudden, when I was least expecting it, somebody else announced that "Saatchi brothers may be sued over Adidas cash row".

I goggled: who is Adidas? I googled: who is Adidas? (Not sue me, I trust.) Then more and more names that I have never heard of come pouring in — the latest being someone called, mellifluously, Robert Louis-Dreyfus. Is he Adidas's brother? And which Saatchi or Saatchis are threatening to sue another lot more of Saatchis?

Then there was the squabble over whose files could be looked at and whose couldn't, and somebody ran away with somebody's hoop, and somebody ran away with somebody else's drum, and somebody else stuck a pin in somebody else's balloon, and... it was revealed in mid-December that Chicago fund manager David Herro was planning to sue Maurice Saatchi from the Chair of ad agency, and I am doubled up at the news that there is a Chair of ad agency.

Nor does it end there: as a matter of fact, it won't end before the Christmas after next, because "Embattled Saatchi chief executive Charlie Scott has accused Maurice and his colleagues... of causing as much damage as possible with

their resignations... This is a cynical, organised campaign to destabilise the group and I am appalled."

Very possibly; but just as I was being sick all over my boots, somebody suggested that Saatchi & Saatchi should change its name: the hero of this brilliant suggestion is one Tom Russell, and the thing must be catching on, because "another Saatchi director wanted a new name to be imposed tomorrow", and "the director said that immediately after a name change, the company should relaunch itself. Well, yes, actually, and that's not all. Mr Russell was unconcerned by a threat from a US investor, Arkhurst Investments, to sue Saatchi & Saatchi's directors for damages stemming from Mr Saatchi's ousting. Wheeeee!

But what about my boots? You know, when I was sick all over them, you must remember — it was when the whole creepy-crawly, slap-and-pinch, smart-and-bum-bustling, greasy-pole and back-slap and back-stab was at its height. And I demand the price of a pair of ruined boots.

Or I'll tell. I'll tell anyone who is listening that this kind of business is a business which, although it is impossible to change fundamentally, will sooner or later have to change or face revolution. No, nobody will be hanged from the lamp-posts — it won't be that kind of revolution, but it will be a revolution nonetheless. A revolution that will say "No, I shall not go into this bit of business with you, although it is perfectly legal, because if I did I would have to have my clothes fumigated as soon as the business was finished; and, more to the point, I would not wish my children to despise me."

I could not be any kind of business man or financier, because I would not understand what it was all about. (The other day, reading, I came across the word "debenture", and I realised that although I had seen the word quite frequently, I have no idea what it is.) But if I were abreast of such matters, I would have no stomach for such a fight, because, I believe that bit by bit I would become as those people have become. You will tell me, and it will be true, that there are many, many businessmen who are as disgusted as I am at the contemplation of those shenanigans. Yes, but I would fear, to the end of my days, that if I were to touch pitch, I would be defiled.

Bernard Levin

Lighting up time

WESTMINSTER is brightening up. At dusk last night, a swish as flicked, sunglasses were donned and the four faces of the Big Ben clocktower were bathed in azzurine eco-friendly beams. Concerned, like everyone else, at the size of their electricity bills, 17s on one of the less glamorous munificences have been examining ways to cut costs. And they claim to have discovered the seemingly impossible: brighter, cheaper lamps that should last 13 years at least, on something known as high-frequency induction.

Originally, the clock was illuminated by Victorian gas lamps, but in 1906 electricity was introduced, 17th 100-watt bulbs behind its face. "Big Ben is a beacon," says Ray owell, MP, chairman of the House of Commons Accommodation and Works Committee. "In the past it has always been too dim. Now we can show off one of our greatest historical landmarks as it should be seen." It is intended that the new installation will shave 3,500 a year off electricity and maintenance bills, but Powell claims that the switch-on itself is not a grand affair. "We can't afford it."

● It pays to be polite. The journalist Alexander Chancellor's fine for drunken driving was reduced from £500 to £400 yesterday because, the judge told him, he had been very helpful to the arresting officers when stopped in Kensington after a Christmas party.

Handy lord

VISCOUNT COWDRAY will be missed by the polo world, but his death this week also robs kitchen

ESSEX POLICE, LITTLE OLD LADIES DIVISION



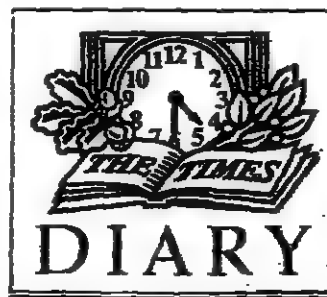
staff at his 60,000-acre Aberdeenshire estate of a man whose advice was readily sought at the stove. The most recent example of his culinary tips came at Christmas when the octogenarian peer turned up from Cowdray Park in Surrey.

When he arrived for breakfast in the morning he learnt that the cook, Christine Morrison, had broken her wrist and was struggling with boiled eggs. Cowdray, who lost his left arm in the retreat from Dunkirk, understood her plight only too well and rushed to her aid. "He was amazingly dexterous with his one hand," explains a retainer. "He could top an egg with one hand in a jiffy."

Roll 'em

DINING recently as guests in one of the capital's casinos, the Ritz Club, John and Norma Major were given an abrupt lesson in the draconian regulations endured by British gaming clubs.

Casinos are, by law, obliged to stop serving drinks at midnight, with half an hour's drinking-up time. So at 12.30 precisely, the Prime Minister's unfinished glass of brandy was politely but firmly removed from the dinner table, in accordance with the curfew. With gambling continuing until



4am, the PM appeared surprised at the absurdity of the rule. He left with a note from the management, apologising if his evening was spoilt, but suggesting he might like to do something about it.

No cod

TWO OF WESTMINSTER'S fishy rebels, Sir Richard Body and Rupert Allason, showed solidarity with disgruntled fishermen on Wednesday's *Nine O'Clock News* by munching their way through cod and chips.

The venue for their meal was The Laughing Halibut in Westminster, favourite fish-and-chip emporium of MPs and, increasingly, a refuge for piscine rebels. Sir Richard insists he is a regular. "We didn't just do it for the cameras. I am every morsel. Even if our fish did come from the North

Sea, the Spanish vessels would be there sooner or later."

Keep stumm

RECENT winners of the lottery will probably sympathise with the desire for anonymity expressed by winners back in the 18th century. A poster for the English State Lottery of 1786 is coming up for sale at Phillips, the auctioneers.

The lottery total offered was a vast £500,000. The poster lists previous winners simply as "a gentleman in Berkeley Square" or "a society of ladies and gentlemen from Cornhill". Tickets cost 6d, and entrants were assured politely of "the earliest intelligence sent of their success".

Huge fan

NORMA MAJOR'S dress sense has seldom been called into question. Yet next month, her clothes allowance faces one of its sterner tests. She is expected among bidders at Sotheby's forthcoming sale of Dame Joan Sutherland's operatic costumes.

She has written an uninspiring introduction for the sale's brochure, in which she notes that Dame Joan finds the role of Bellini's *Norma* her most taxing — hardly surprising considering that



Stupendous: Dame Joan

the character sets fire to herself towards the end of the opera.

● Lord Kagan, who died this week, was an extraordinarily ambitious chess player. So much so, that he had an eclectic selection of chess sets. "He always managed to find a chess set with obscure-looking pieces which his opponent couldn't recognise. That gave him a head start," says a regular combatant. "And if that didn't work he would sing loudly in Lithuanian, which would put anyone off."

P.H.S.

A Fascist at Chatham House?

Denis MacShane deplores a shaming invitation

Chatham House, as the Royal Institute for International Affairs is familiarly known, is Britain's premier think-tank on foreign policy. Founded in 1920, it gained world renown with Arnold Toynbee's legendary pre-war annual surveys of global politics. Its patron is the Queen, and its presidents are the Lords Callaghan, Jenkins and Carrington. Funded by the Government and blue-chip firms, it is a haven for retired diplomats who remain among the most intellectually capable of Britain's public servants. Unlike other countries, where there is some pluralism in foreign policy discussion, Chatham House's prestige and patronage has overshadowed other bodies seeking to challenge conventional foreign policy.

Yet now Chatham House's reputation is to be put to the test by its extraordinary decision to provide a platform for the rising star of Europe's reborn Fascist movement, Gianfranco Fini, leader of the Italian extreme Right.

Fini is general secretary of the MSI party in Italy, the dominant component in the *Alleanza Nazionale*, which entered Berlusconi's coalition Government last year. The MSI was set up by Giorgio Almirante, who was an official in the Nazi-backed puppet republic of Salò, set up for Mussolini after the dictator was ousted from Rome. Almirante hand-picked the articulate, personable Fini as his successor, and Fini has never swerved from his declaration that "Mussolini was the greatest statesman of the 20th century".

Under Berlusconi, Fini himself avoided any ministerial portfolio, concentrating on the twin tasks of building his party and polishing his image as a charismatic television performer. Although he likes to proclaim himself "post-Fascist", Fini has taken care to assure his followers that on all the major themes associated with Fascism he is true to the faith. Explaining his support for Fascism as a student in the 1960s, Fini says "I was a Fascist at a time when all right-wingers were called Fascist. I claimed the label because what others considered an insult to me meant belonging to my political family, the MSI".

The evidence that Fini still cleaves to core elements of Fascist ideology is overwhelming. He is irredentist and his party wants to incorporate Fiume and Dalmatia into Italy. Two years ago, he sailed to the Slovene and Croatian coasts and flung 2,000 bottles into the sea carrying the message *Ritornello* ("We will return"). He adores the trappings of Fascist ceremony. At *Alleanza Nazionale* rallies, his youth section enforces security with black-shirted squads. Fini's rousing speeches are punctuated by the raised-arm "Roman" salute.

Although Fini has publicly denounced anti-Semitism, the MSI-*Alleanza Nazionale* is anti-Semitic. As the line came under pressure last autumn, the Labour Minister, one of Fini's placemen, blamed the currency turmoil on "New York Jews". At Fini's public meetings, the standard Italian anti-Semitic text on Freemasonry is prominently on sale.

Fini has proclaimed a commitment to privatisation while official MSI-*Alleanza Nazionale* economic thinking supports corporatist subsidies for their strongholds in southern Italy; but the core elements of Fini's Fascism are plain to all Italians. According to the political commentator Luciano Canfora, "This is not the first time there has been an attempt to make the Fascists respectable, and in this case the essential values at the heart of Fascism remain intact."

Fini most resembles Fascist politicians in his intense craving for international respectability. So this invitation is the biggest coup in his careful programme to win endorsement outside Italy as a mainstream political leader.

Along with Berlusconi, Fini continues to call for early elections, from which he hopes to emerge with a stronger share of the vote and a claim to be named prime minister. His London speech, due on February 15, will fall right in the middle of intense campaigning in Italy by Berlusconi and Fini for new elections, at a time when the rest of Europe hopes that the new Italian government can stabilise Italian politics and implement economic reform after the shocks of the past 12 months.

Never before in its history has Chatham House lent its prestige to such an extreme right-wing figure. It is not clear at what level the decision to invite Fini was taken. To be sure, Chatham House has drifted to the right under the impact of 15 years of Conservative government, and its bizarrely eclectic speakers' list suggests that speakers are chosen as much for their shock publicity effect as for a contribution to serious analysis of foreign affairs.

In the Commons last summer, the Foreign Secretary, Douglas Hurd, went out of his way to defend Fini's party, and the importance of dealing with it as an elected component of the Italian Government. In the complex search for allies in Europe, it is clear that Hurd saw the new coalition in Rome as a new right-wing partner against Franco-German domination in the EU. So did Hurd nudge Chatham House to endorse Fini?

Whatever the explanation, this blunder is all the more grotesque in the year we celebrate the anniversary of the defeat of Fascism. It should be withdrawn before a mistake becomes an international incident, shaming Britain in the eyes of the victims of Fascism and of those Jews, homosexuals, trade unionists and others in Italy who are terrified of the arrival of Fini in power in Rome. The author is Labour MP for Rotherham.



REBELS IN ERROR

Yesterday's manifesto on Europe was clear but wrong

Courage and principles are two political qualities possessed in abundance by the rebel MPs who were deprived of the Tory whip late last year by John Major. Realism and tactical finesse are less developed faculties. The manifesto published yesterday by eight of the nine rebels was one of the clearest statements on European policy heard in Britain for 20 years. But its practical effects on European debate are unlikely to be constructive, either for Britain or for the Tory party, whose interests the rebels still claim to have at heart.

The main objections to the rebel manifesto are not that it looks like a further act of defiance against Mr Major and makes the task of bringing the dissenters back into the Tory fold more difficult. It remains as true as ever that the expulsion of nine MPs from the parliamentary party was the fault of the Prime Minister, ill advised by the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the whips, not of the rebels themselves. Mr Major had no need to make the vote on EU budget contributions an issue of confidence and thereby to raise the stakes. The whole crisis was of the whips' own making and the rebels should not be blamed for refusing to be cowed into silence by their threats.

The real objection to the rebel manifesto lies not in its symbolism or its tactics, but in its contents. The eight proposals, when taken together, amount, in effect, to a call for outright withdrawal from the EU. In making such a call, the rebels have not only cut themselves off from the possibility of any serious influence over government policy. They have also misread public opinion, which is uncomfortable with the drift towards a federal Europe but would need much more serious provocation to con-

plate complete withdrawal.

The rebels now risk discrediting the more moderate and constructive Tory Eurosceptics. As soon as the rebels are readmitted into the party, their manifesto will offer an easy target for Labour. Tony Blair will be able to parry justified attacks on his own naive European policies by claiming that the Tories have only united around a hidden agenda that would ultimately take Britain out of the EU.

Even the rebels themselves are not so deluded as to believe that their eight demands must be met before they take back the Tory whip. As Sir Teddy Taylor said yesterday, the manifesto is meant only as "a suggestion" and the immediate objective is only to start a serious debate.

A serious discussion of Britain's EU membership would, indeed, be welcome. The idea of withdrawing from the EU should not be considered taboo, either within the Tory party or in the country. As Norman Lamont has suggested, the pros and cons of EU membership are much more finely balanced than is now taken for granted. There is no reason to accept the simplistic view, all too prevalent in the Labour Party and much of the business community, that Britain is condemned by geography to follow whatever road to political and economic unification the continental countries might choose.

But to call for a debate on Britain's EU membership, of the kind that would inevitably result at the time of a referendum on monetary union or the inter-governmental conference, is very different from advocating withdrawal from the key EU institutions before such a debate has taken place and before the people have given their view.

DESPITE CHECHENIA

Western leaders must stand by Yeltsin

Douglas Hurd yesterday warned Andrei Kozirev, the Russian Foreign Minister, that British public opinion was becoming disgusted with Moscow's onslaught on Grozny. In Bonn, Helmut Kohl was forced on the defensive in the Bundestag and said that while he was proud to call President Yeltsin a friend, Russia was not doing enough to end the war. Warren Christopher has been telling Mr Kozirev that Mr Yeltsin's close relations with America are also in jeopardy. As the battle for Grozny reaches its climax, the West is looking at the toll the war is taking on the Russian leader and on their relations with him.

No one doubts that when the fighting is over, there will be a political slaughter in Moscow. The Russian leader will come under enormous pressure to exact a price for the bungling, wrong advice and incompetence. If he does nothing, his political weakness will be patent for his rivals to see; if he blames the military, however, he could only fuel the anger of the general staff, already deeply frustrated by steep budget and manpower cuts, the undermining of the armed forces' former privileged position and recent political and economic reform.

Mr Yeltsin will have to pay a very high price of his own if he is to re-establish his battered authority. The general staff, even if it forces through a coup against the Defence Minister, Pavel Grachev, will want a huge increase in military spending. The President's former democratic allies in the Duma will not return to his banner unless he can distance himself from the Chechnia campaign. The public, now suffering a new round of inflation as the rouble plunges, will hold Mr Yeltsin's Government responsible for the economic collapse that is likely to be compounded by its failure to secure a loan

from the International Monetary Fund. The wary advisers around the President, fearing for their future, will be unsure whether to turn on him and court his enemies or stick with the embattled leader.

Western statesmen have invested much in Mr Yeltsin. They have learnt not to underestimate a man whose explosions of energy have forced escape from many a political cul-de-sac. He is still seen as the best guarantor of political and economic reform. And, most cogently, they do not see any credible alternative to a leader who still stands the squabbling politicians around him. It is, as diplomats in Moscow are saying, too early to write him off.

In all assessments of a vulnerable foreign leader's domestic standing, the most important calculation must be how credible his opponents are. There are few other so-called Democrats who have the slightest chance in the coming presidential election. Grigori Yavlinsky comes top of the polls and heads the liberal Yabloko faction in the Duma, but he is not the stuff of nationwide appeal. Viktor Chernomyrdin, the Prime Minister, is still Pompidou to Yeltsin's de Gaulle, and must await his boss's departure. Few others are sufficiently known at home or abroad — except, ominously, the Communists and nationalists such as Vladimir Zhirinovskiy. It is precisely because these unstable men might top any poll next year that the West must continue support for a President who is the most reliable leader to control Russia's vast nuclear arsenal. Western statesmen may wish to play down this support at home while the television pictures show such carnage. They may wish to use their personal friendship to warn him of a foreign backlash. But it is not the time to abandon him, despite the Chechnia toll.

RESUME NORMAL SERVICE

Radio 4 should preserve its broadcast act of worship

Next month, Radio 4's *Morning Service* will go off the air for four weeks to be replaced by a discussion programme on "emotional issues common to human experience". This will be the second time that the BBC's most familiar religious programme has been cancelled to make way for *Were You There?*, a well-regarded series presented by the broadcaster Rosemary Hattill. Both programmes deserve a place in Radio 4's schedule. But it is deeply regrettable that *Morning Service* should now be regarded as an optional feature rather than a fixture.

To say so may appear pedantic. The BBC denies that the change of plan sounds the death-knell of *Morning Service*. But to the 1.3 million devotees of the programme, the decision to replace it for a month will appear thoughtless and disrespectful. It suggests a misunderstanding both of Radio 4's own cultural role and of the role which religious programming plays in the life of the nation.

Radio 4 listeners are the conservative core of the BBC's consumer constituency. As the campaign to save the channel's long-wave service demonstrated, they react fiercely to substantial change. That does not mean that Radio 4's output should be immutable. The success of programmes such as *The Moral Maze* has illustrated the value of intelligent innovation on an essentially traditionalist radio channel. But there is a difference between providing the soil for new ideas and uprooting a much-loved garden. Radio 4's Sunday morning fixtures — notably *Morning Service* and *The Archers* — are an institution. The station has done itself few favours in recent years by tinkering with its

schedule at this time of week. It should sink further only with the greatest of care. Secondly, the decision to take *Morning Service* off the air, albeit temporarily, suggests a misconceived approach to religion on radio and television. It might be argued that a programme like *Were You There?* addresses spiritual issues in the same way as a formal religious service and is therefore a reasonable substitute. In fact, the two are quite different sorts of broadcast.

One answers the need in intelligent people for sophisticated discussion of religious, mystical and emotional issues, as do television programmes such as *Everyman* and *Heart of the Matter*. The other speaks to the human desire to share a collective act of worship, if only by listening to a radio or watching television. By tuning to *Morning Service*, listeners are given a sense of participation in a Christian ritual involving people all over the country.

It is often assumed that such programmes are outdated in a secular age that prefers its religion laced with doubt and debate. In fact, there is strong evidence that viewers and listeners continue to value broadcast services. BBC's *Songs of Praise*, for example, is regularly watched by more than five million people. A survey published last year by the Independent Television Commission suggested powerful support for the traditional "God slot". More people experience acts of worship through electronic media than by their presence in church. In *Morning Service*, Radio 4 has a core asset which should not be traded for faddishness or current trends.

West inconsistent in foreign affairs

From Professor Vladimir J. Konecni

Sir, In 1991, when the Yugoslav Government and Army, without firing a shot, tried in Slovenia to preserve the borders and the territorial integrity of a viable, legitimate, and for 70 years an internationally recognized country — Yugoslavia — the European Community and the United States did nothing positive.

On the contrary, led by Germany, they did everything in their power to dissolve Yugoslavia by quickly recognizing first Slovenia, then Croatia, then Bosnia and Herzegovina, then the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. The present-day analogy would be for Germany to recognize Chechnia without consulting its allies and for the UN then to send troops to protect an "internationally recognized" country and create a "safe haven" in Grozny.

When the Algerian Government in 1992 cancelled elections which the Muslim fundamentalists were about to win, there was hardly a squeak heard in protest from the United States, let alone an invasion of *la Grenade* or Haiti to restore "democracy". And the West does not like Milosevic in Belgrade even though he has been twice democratically elected.

So there are "good" and "bad" attempts to preserve the territorial integrity of a country and "good" and "bad" winners of democratic elections, just as there are apparently "good Muslims" in Bosnia and the Gulf, and "bad Muslims" everywhere else. The answer to the apparent conundrum is that power and economic interests, not justice or international law, guide Western behavior.

Yours etc,
VLADIMIR J. KONECNI,
327 Shoemaker Lane,
Solana Beach, California 92075, USA.
January 16.

Tories and Europe

From Mr Tom King, MP for Bridgwater (Conservative), and others

Sir, In the light of the ongoing debate about the future developments of the European Community and Britain's role within it, the vast majority of Conservatives support a clear-headed and practical approach to securing what is in Britain's best interests.

They do want to be part of a Europe in which it is easy to travel and free to trade, but want to see less intervention in their day-to-day lives from Brussels. Few want more constitutional changes arising from next year's Intergovernmental Conference, and would support any move to block such changes. They want Britain to be a member of a Europe of nation states, not a superstate.

In short, they support the Government's negotiating position set out recently by the Prime Minister.

Yours etc,
TOM KING,
BOB DUNN,
ANTHONY DURANT,
DAVID EVANS,
ARCHIE HAMILTON,
PETER HODGSON,
DAVID HOWELL M. JOPLING,
JILL KNIGHT,
FERGUS MONTGOMERY,
JIM PAWSEY,
DONALD THOMPSON,
House of Commons,
January 19.

Mandel recalled

From Mr Nicholas Ogilthorpe

Sir, The gallant Georges Mandel was not "an obscure politician of the Third Republic" as Charles Bremner describes him in his report (January 7) on the recent rise to political prominence of Nicolas Sarkozy, but a remarkable and strong minister.

A First World War political adviser to "Tiger" Clemenceau at the most dangerous times, Mandel was later one of the few French politicians to understand the Nazi threat in its full horror, and to be utterly determined to resist.

Mandel accepted the office of Minister of the Interior on May 18, 1940, when France faced disaster. He kept his head and stiffened resistance as best he could, wanting to take it to Algeria and the French colonies, and was prevented from doing so only by treachery. On June 16, 1940, he refused an opportunity to escape with de Gaulle on the following day.

Imprisoned by the Vichy government, Mandel was murdered on Gestapo orders on July 7, 1944. His memory deserves the honour no doubt afforded to it by Mr Sarkozy.

Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS OGILTHORPE,
15 Poplar Avenue,
Eaton, Norwich, Norfolk.
January 8.

Crowd-puller?

From Mr David Graney

Sir, As a BBCI viewer, I feel rather insulted to read (report January 18) that a period drama, *The Buccaneers*, can only be made "accessible" to people like me by the introduction of a "rape and a homosexual encounter".

Yours sincerely,
DAVID GRANEY,
Furlong House, High Street,
Stretton, Salisbury, Wiltshire.
January 18.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Conservation of listed buildings

From Mrs Nicholas Graham

Sir, Nobody should be surprised by the thought of fines, or threat of imprisonment, if "irreparable damage" is caused to a Grade II listed house (letters, January 3, 6, 11). What right has anyone to ruin our diminishing stock of 15th-century houses, or 19th-century houses, for that matter?

Supportive yelps will always be heard from those who flout the law, those who are too idle or too impatient to complete the simple forms provided by their local planning authority — a source which, in my experience, provides free and expert advice.

I am delighted to know that if in this Grade II house we start to demolish the porch, install plastic windows, paint our stucco "day-glow" orange or pick-axe an original fireplace, the entire conservation section of Canterbury City Council "will be down on us like a ton of bricks", and quite right, too.

Few people are willing to restore a listed building unless they are secure in the knowledge that successive owners will be prevented from "Gormaniming" it.

Yours faithfully,
ANNE GRAHAM,
Petham House,
Petham, Canterbury, Kent.
January 11.

From Mr Anthony Wigram, FRICS

Sir, I believe that much more detailed work needs to be done over the listing of Grade II buildings, and the specific parts of those buildings which ought to be listed.

It may well be reasonable for the exterior of pleasant although unexceptional 17th and 18th-century buildings

to be protected; but the case for bureaucratic interference with alterations to interiors of merely vernacular interest is surely mistaken, particularly if such buildings cannot be put to reasonably beneficial use without modern kitchens, bathrooms, heating and insulation.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY WIGRAM,
Highfield House,
4 Woodfall Street, SW3.
January 10.

From Mr K. E. Willis

Sir, Assuming that it is right and proper to protect and conserve our architectural heritage, and that there is no point in making regulations if they are not to be enforced, is it not a fact that far too many buildings are listed and that many, though they may be properly listed, are too highly graded?

Many of the 700,000 currently listed buildings must be of questionable architectural and aesthetic merit — particularly at the Victorian and post-Victorian end of the scale, and yet their restoration, or even simple repair, is being made impossibly difficult because they are caught, for no sound reason, in the listed building net.

It was surely never the purpose of the Town and Country Planning Act to condemn sound and usable buildings to dereliction; but that could well be its effect unless the criteria for listing buildings are very carefully examined.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
K. E. WILLIS,
(Managing Director),
Commercial Group Holdings,
2-16 High Street,
Margate, Kent.
January 9.

Horticultural library

From Mr John S. Mattock

Sir, It is precisely because the Lindley Library, the greatest horticultural library in the world, has outgrown its totally inadequate premises in Westminster that necessitates its rehousing (Sir Roy Strong's letter, January 14).

With the existing facilities and lack of space, only about one tenth of this priceless collection of horticultural knowledge is ever easily available to visit and consult.

There are also vast quantities of very valuable paintings and memorabilia which rarely see the light of day. The collections of the Royal Horticultural Society are not the most flourishing of conditions to store them in, and the roof of the library leaks like a sieve.

Surely this library would be better accommodated in custom-built premises at Wisley in spacious surroundings with ample car parking, where a visit can be combined with a walk in very pleasant surroundings and a very superior restaurant is available.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN MATTOCK,
(Council member, Royal Horticultural Society, 1973-86),
14 Hill Rise,
Gidley Way, Horspath, Oxford.
January 16.

From Mr John Harris

Sir, Sir Roy Strong's plea for the retention of the Lindley Library in London is a reminder of the disaster that has befallen the National Monuments Record of the Royal Commission on

Historical Monuments since its removal in May 1994 to Swindon. It has become "user-unfriendly".

I recently made inquiries of those who regularly used this great collection of architectural photographs when in London. Out of 28 only one has been to Swindon. A day's consultation from London must include the £39 standard return rail fare. There are now constant complaints as to the inadequacy of communication from a distance, because the eyes of the NMR staff cannot be a substitute for those of the user. The National Monuments Record will wither.

I believe that the Lindley Library will similarly wither. To get to Wisley by public transport requires train, bus and a walk.

If the Council of the Royal Horticultural Society takes this decision, it will be tantamount to closing the library down.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN HARRIS,
16 Limerston Street, SW10.
January 14.

From Mr Edward W. Petts

Sir, Sir Roy Strong is causing quite unnecessary alarm.

I have no doubt that the scholars from all over the world who wish to visit the Lindley Library will manage to join the 681,164 visitors who made the "major expedition" to Wisley Gardens in 1993.

Yours faithfully,
EDWARD W. PETTS,
29 Crichton Road,
Carshalton Beches, Surrey.
January 14.

Clause Four debate

From Mr R. L. Sturch

Sir, Whether the Labour Party's Clause Four should be changed or not, those who wish to retain it are not "living in the past" (headline, January 11). The clause was not intended as a response to the conditions of 1918, but as a target for the (possibly distant) future; and it is if anything the future that its supporters are living in.

Yours truly,
R. L. STURCH,
3 The Rise, Islip,
Kidlington, Oxfordshire.

From the Editor of Tribune

Sir, Your correspondents, Jill Sherman and Arthur Leadley, report (January 11) that Labour Party sources had told them that "much of the Defend

Clause Four campaign is being run out of Tribune offices".

This claim is wrong. While *Tribune* has taken a strong editorial line on the issue, as might be expected of a socialist newspaper, the campaign for Clause Four is not being run from these offices. We lack the resources to do so, apart from anything else. Indeed *Tribune* has been the only newspaper to afford the protagonists from all sides of the argument space for their views. That we will continue to do.

But *Tribune* did argue from the beginning that this was an unnecessary debate which would divide the party. It looks as though we were right.

Yours sincerely,
MARK SEDDON,
Editor, *Tribune*,
308 Gray's Inn Road, WCI.

Corruption in politics

From Lord Blake, FBA

Sir, May I expand on my remark, which you quote from my evidence to the Nolan committee (report, January 18, earlier editions), that "it would be difficult to write an interesting book on corruption in Britain between 1895 and 1995".

I may have expressed myself badly. I was referring to Professor Geoffrey Searle's authoritative book, *Corruption in British Politics 1895-1930*, and I meant that it would be difficult to write a similar book on the periods 1860-95 or 1930-65, because there is nothing much to write about.

The years dealt with by Professor Searle were exceptional — till recently.

Yours faithfully,
BLAKE,
Riverview House, Brundall, Norwich.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

Furore over live animal exports

From Mr Chaim Berman

Sir, It seems to me that an unholy alliance has emerged between environmentalists and the animal lobby to destroy British farming.

The former argue that the farmer is the enemy of the earth, and farming an assault on nature, and they would ideally like to see the British countryside revert to wilderness.

The latter has in the meantime been spreading the idea that all movement of livestock is cruel. It is no longer a matter of calves in crates. Sheep transports are also being stopped. At this rate it will soon be impossible for farmers to move livestock to market.

I don't know which is the more disturbing, the excesses of the animal lobby or the quiescence of the farmers.

Yours faithfully,
CHAIM BERMAN,
c/o Aitken, Stone & Wylie Ltd,
29 Farnshaw Road, SW10.
January 18.

From Mr David Gibbon

Sir, Three cheers for the citizens of Brightlingsea (report, January 19).

The live transport of farm animals has been exposed by the RSPCA and others as a most viciously callous trade but it is just the tip of the iceberg. Veal production is only one outrageous example. Turkey-rearing and intensive egg production both involve cruelty that, if it were applied to budgies, would lead to prison sentences. If dogs were treated as pigs are, it would cause a public uproar.

I am not surprised that ordinary people in their thousands have joined the protests against the live transport of animals. The growing availability of vegetarian food in the supermarkets makes it clear that more and more people are voting with their shopping baskets too.

We should be proud that we have an ethical movement in which the people of Britain are leading the world.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID GIBBON,
145 Mayfield Road, Edinburgh 9.
January 19.

From Mr Paul Caswell

Sir, The present furore over animal exports, like the earlier campaign against the community charge, points to a defect in our constitutional arrangements. The "one-cause" group sees no legitimate means of getting its way, so it turns to public demonstrations, wasting police time and risking violent elements getting their head.

We may not wish to see in this country referendums becoming as commonplace as in Switzerland and California. But perhaps a legal specification for independently supervised and privately financed advisory referendums might take the steam out of some of these situations.

They could be supervised by a body such as the Electoral Reform Society with a minimum 25 per cent poll in each of at least three quarters of the Westminster constituencies. If a two thirds majority were gained, then the law might require that Parliament hold a full debate.

Some such legitimised channel is needed now that our MPs are so well-whipped.

Yours sincerely,
PAUL CASWELL,
57 Hanson Drive, Fowey, Cornwall.
January 16.

Compulsory purchase

From the Managing Director of Thames Water

Sir, Your report (January 17) on the landowner who claims he was "exploited" by our predecessors, the Metropolitan Water Board, omitted to say that his case was carefully reviewed by the local ombudsman in 1988, who cleared the then water authority of accusations of administrative error and unreasonableness.

It is no surprise to us — though it may be to others — that the Country Landowners' Association had to cite a 30-year-old case in support of its argument. Today, compulsory purchase orders are virtually unknown in this country.

Yours sincerely,
W. J. ALEXANDER,
Managing Director,
Thames Water Utilities,
Nugent House,
Vestern Road, Reading, Berkshire.

A sour taste

From Mr P. M. B. Savage

Sir, Surely Joyce Grenfell wins the prize for restraint horror stories (letters, January 11, 13): she was sitting within earshot of the kitchen door and heard one waiter, as he was going out, say to another: "She's eaten it".

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK SAVAGE,
Aynhoe Park,
Nr Banbury, Oxfordshire.

From Mr David L. Medd

Sir, Many years ago, in the restaurant in Ham House, Richmond, I asked if the apple tart on the menu was cold. The reply of the waitress was: "Nearly".

Yours faithfully,
DAVID L. MEDD,
5 Pennyfathers Lane, Harmer Green,
Wetwyn, Hertfordshire.



COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM, NORFOLK
January 19 The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron and Trustee, of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, this afternoon chaired a meeting of the trustees at Pembroke College, Cambridge.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
January 19 The Prince Edward, Trustee, of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, this afternoon attended a meeting of the trustees at Pembroke College, Cambridge.

His Royal Highness, Patron, of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, this afternoon attended a meeting of the trustees at Pembroke College, Cambridge.

The Prince Edward afterwards attended a Concert celebrating the twenty first Anniversary of the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra Chorus followed by the Chorus's twenty first Birthday Party in Symphony Hall, Birmingham.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
January 19 The Princess Royal, Patron, of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, this afternoon attended a meeting of the trustees at Pembroke College, Cambridge.

His Royal Highness, Patron, of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, this afternoon attended a meeting of the trustees at Pembroke College, Cambridge.

The Prince Edward afterwards attended a Concert celebrating the twenty first Anniversary of the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra Chorus followed by the Chorus's twenty first Birthday Party in Symphony Hall, Birmingham.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
January 19 The Princess Royal, Patron, of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, this afternoon attended a meeting of the trustees at Pembroke College, Cambridge.

His Royal Highness, Patron, of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, this afternoon attended a meeting of the trustees at Pembroke College, Cambridge.

The Prince Edward afterwards attended a Concert celebrating the twenty first Anniversary of the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra Chorus followed by the Chorus's twenty first Birthday Party in Symphony Hall, Birmingham.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
January 19 The Princess Royal, Patron, of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, this afternoon attended a meeting of the trustees at Pembroke College, Cambridge.

His Royal Highness, Patron, of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, this afternoon attended a meeting of the trustees at Pembroke College, Cambridge.

The Prince Edward afterwards attended a Concert celebrating the twenty first Anniversary of the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra Chorus followed by the Chorus's twenty first Birthday Party in Symphony Hall, Birmingham.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
January 19 The Princess Royal, Patron, of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, this afternoon attended a meeting of the trustees at Pembroke College, Cambridge.

His Royal Highness, Patron, of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, this afternoon attended a meeting of the trustees at Pembroke College, Cambridge.

The Prince Edward afterwards attended a Concert celebrating the twenty first Anniversary of the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra Chorus followed by the Chorus's twenty first Birthday Party in Symphony Hall, Birmingham.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
January 19 The Princess Royal, Patron, of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, this afternoon attended a meeting of the trustees at Pembroke College, Cambridge.

His Royal Highness, Patron, of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, this afternoon attended a meeting of the trustees at Pembroke College, Cambridge.

The Prince Edward afterwards attended a Concert celebrating the twenty first Anniversary of the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra Chorus followed by the Chorus's twenty first Birthday Party in Symphony Hall, Birmingham.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
January 19 The Princess Royal, Patron, of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, this afternoon attended a meeting of the trustees at Pembroke College, Cambridge.

His Royal Highness, Patron, of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, this afternoon attended a meeting of the trustees at Pembroke College, Cambridge.

Today's royal engagements

The Princess Royal, as President of the Save the Children Fund, will visit the Cynon Valley project at 4, Knight Street, Mountain Ash, Mid Glamorgan, at 2.15, and, as President of the Patrons, Crime Concern, will launch the Safer Cities project at Merthyr Tydfil, Mid Glamorgan, at 11.00 and will tour the Dowlais Estate.

Lecture

Foundation for Science and Technology
The French Ambassador attended a lecture on the Foundation for Science and Technology held yesterday at One Great George Street. The Hon William Waldegrave, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, and Lord Butterworth, Chairman of the Council of the Foundation, presided jointly. M François Fillon was the speaker.

The Dresden Trust

The Minister-President of Saxony, Professor Kurt Biedenkopf, was last night guest of honour at a dinner given by the Dresden Trust at St James's Palace, in the presence of HRH the Duke of Kent, KG. Professor Biedenkopf spoke about the reconstruction of the Frauen Kirche in Dresden which is to be crowned by a Cross made in Britain and given by the Trust.

Meeting

Shipwrights' Company
On behalf of The Queen, Mr Michael Robinson, Prime Warden of the Shipwrights' Company, presented the Queen's Silver Medal for the Shipyard Apprentice of 1994 to Mr Gary Nolan, of Devonport Management, and the company's Bronze Medal to Mr James Fordham, of the Berthon Boat Company, Lymington, at a court meeting held yesterday at Ironmongers' Hall. Mr Robinson also presented Lieutenant Richard Hutchins, RN, with the Fieldhouse Memorial Medal for 1994.

Catholic Independent Schools' Conference

The Catholic Independent Schools' Conference, 1995 Group, held its Annual Conference yesterday at St Mary's School, Ascot. The keynote Addresses were given by the Reverend Professor Jack Mahoney, SJ, and Sister Judith Rust, SSMM.

Colonel W.H. Whitbread

The Memorial Service for Colonel W.H. Whitbread will be held at St Lawrence Jewry next Guildhall in the City of London on Tuesday, March 21, at 11.30am.

Loriners' Company

The following have been installed officers of the Loriners' Company: Master, Alderman Sir Francis Whitfield; Vice-Master, Mr John F.S. Northcote; Under-Warden, Mr John A. Bischoff.

Birthdays today

Mr Aubrey Bailey, conservation architect, 33; Mr Tom Baker, actor, 59; Mr George Burns, actor and comedian, 98; Mr Justice Chadwick, 54; Mr Derek Dougan, former football manager and player, 57; the Very Rev D.L. Edwards, former Provost of Southwark Cathedral, 66; Lord Ewing of Kirkcaldy, 64; the Hon Sir Henry Fisher, former president, Wolfson College, Oxford, 77; Miss Liz Goddard, actress, 43; Lord Hanson, 75; the Marquess of Headfort, 53; Major Dick Hinch, racehorse trainer, 74; Mr J.K. Ind, former headmaster, Dover College, 60; Mr Roy Litch, film producer, 49; Commander Vania McBride, former director, WRNS, 74; Mr Christopher Mettling-Jenkins, cricket commentator, 50; Mr Max Morrison, governor, Albany Prison, St; Mr Natan Sharanay, Soviet dissident, 47; Professor N.C. Wickramasinghe, astronomer, 56; Mr Nigel Williams, novelist, 47; Mr John Withrow, editor, The Sunday Times, 43.



Buzz Aldrin, former astronaut, is 65 today

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Frederick Louis, Prince of Wales, Hanover, 1707; Theobald, Irish nationalist, Dublin, 1763; André-Marie Ampère, physicist, Lyons, 1775; Johannes Jensen, poet and novelist, Nobel laureate 1944, Farøe, Denmark, 1873; John, Francis, Miller, painter, Barbizon, 1875; R.D. Blackmore, novelist, Teddington, Middlesex, 1900; John Ruskin, critic and writer, Coniston, Cumbria, 1900; Charles Doughty, explorer in Arabia, Sissinghurst, Kent, 1926; King George V, reigned 1910-36, Sandringham, 1924; Robinson Jeffers, poet, Carmel, California, 1926; Edmund Blunden, poet and critic, Long Melford, Suffolk, 1974; Johnny Weissmuller, olympic swimming champion and actor, Florida, 1904.

DEATHS: David Garrick, actor-manager, London, 1779; John Howard, philanthropist and penal reformer, Kew, Surrey, 1790; Sir John Soane, architect, London, 1837; Jean, Francis, Miller, painter, Barbizon, 1875; R.D. Blackmore, novelist, Teddington, Middlesex, 1900; John Ruskin, critic and writer, Coniston, Cumbria, 1900; Charles Doughty, explorer in Arabia, Sissinghurst, Kent, 1926; King George V, reigned 1910-36, Sandringham, 1924; Robinson Jeffers, poet, Carmel, California, 1926; Edmund Blunden, poet and critic, Long Melford, Suffolk, 1974; Johnny Weissmuller, olympic swimming champion and actor, Florida, 1904.

The first assembly of The Commonwealth Trans-Antarctic Expedition led by Sir Vivian Fuchs reached the South Pole, 1958.

Service dinner

London Rifle Brigade
Lieutenant-Colonel Kyrle Simond presided at the annual dinner of the London Rifle Brigade held last night at The Royal Green Jackets London Club. Sir Nicholas Bonsor, MP, and Lieutenant-Colonel T. Hamilton-Baillie, Commanding Officer of the 4th Battalion, The Royal Green Jackets, were among those present.

Archaeology

Mayfair Roman fort theory 'is illusory'

By NORMAN HAMMOND, ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

THE idea that London began as a Roman fort in Mayfair has been challenged, on the grounds that the evidence cited is "illusory". A location in Southwark, close to the Thames and more secure from attack, is much more likely and is supported by the numismatic evidence.

The challenge to Bill Sole's controversial "Metropolis in Mayfair" thesis comes from Nicholas Puentes of the Museum of London, who argues for the invasion fort of AD 43 as being near the Elephant and Castle, south London. This would, he says, have created "a sense of occasion" when the Emperor Claudius, newly arrived from Rome, led his troops across the Thames into enemy territory.

The Mayfair fort, allegedly located just east of Park Lane, is predicated on the supposed antiquity of the street pattern in the area, Mr Puentes says. However, maps of the 16th and 17th centuries do not show a precursor to Park Street, a vital strand in Mr Sole's argument.

In favour of a Southwark origin for London is the fact that coins found there match those from other Claudian supply bases of AD 43 on the Kent and Sussex coast. Michael Hammer, who has analysed the coins, suggests the move across the Thames to the present City of London took place only after AD 50.

"The map evidence cited by Mr Sole may be seen as illusory," Mr Puentes says in the *London Archaeologist*. "The factness of northern Southwark would have had a much greater appeal as an initial occupation site than the hillside of the City."

Forthcoming marriages

Mr C.I. Awe and Miss G.M. Power
The engagement is announced between Christopher, elder son of Mr and Mrs Gerald Awe, of Bath, Avon, and Gabrielle, daughter of Mr and Mrs Gerald Power, of Altrincham, Cheshire.

Mr R.A.M. Baker and Miss K.M. Gorman
The engagement is announced between Richard, son of the late Major D.R. Baker and of Mrs Baker, of Tewin, Hertfordshire, and Karen, daughter of the late Mr G. Gordon and of Mrs Lorraine Gordon, of Tregear, NSW, Australia.

Mr M.J. Brown and Miss V. Norwood
The engagement is announced between Martin, eldest son of Mr and Mrs John Brown, of Aston Clinton, Buckinghamshire, and Victoria, daughter of the late Mr G. Gordon and of Mrs Lorraine Gordon, of Tregear, NSW, Australia.

Mr P.A. Brown and Miss R.G. Macklow
The engagement is announced between Alex, son of Mr and Mrs A. Brown, of Guildford, Surrey, and Rosalind, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs A.J. Macklow, of Stourbridge, West Midlands.

Mr T.H. Cotterell and Miss J.E.S. Morris
The engagement is announced between Timothy, younger son of Mr and Mrs Charles Cotterell, of Redlynch Park, Bruton, Somerset, and Josephine, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Keith Morris, of Wexford, South Glamorgan.

Mr J.M.R. Curry and Miss P.J. Koval
The engagement is announced between James, son of Mr and Mrs J.M.R. Curry, of Finchampstead, Berkshire, and Paula Joanne, only daughter of Mr Peter Koval, of Vermilion, Dakota, USA, and Mrs Christine Walsh, of Essex, Devon.

Mr G.O. Firth and Miss S.A. Leach
The engagement is announced between George, younger son of Mr and Mrs Allan Firth, of Weybridge, Surrey, and Sarah, daughter of Mr and Mrs Mike Leach, of Oxted, Surrey.

Mr R.M. Harper and Miss S.M. Bilton
The engagement is announced between Miles, son of Mr and Mrs Gordon Harper, of Chesham, Bucks, and Susan, daughter of Mr and Mrs Brian Bilton, of East Yorkshire, and Mrs Barbara Bilton, of Stopham, West Sussex.

Church news

Appointments
The Rev Charles Roberts, Assistant Priest, St Saviour's, Claremont, Cape Town, South Africa, to be Curate, Bath Abbey, W. St James, Bath and Wells.
The Rev Philip Robinson, Assistant Curate (NSM), St Giles, Ipswich, to be Priest-in-charge, St Giles, Ipswich (London).
The Rev John Ryder, Assistant Curate, St Faith, Havant, to be Priest-in-charge, All Saints, Hordshill and St Alban, Vennor, Isle of Wight (Roman Catholic).
The Rev James Smith, Vicar, Cotcombe, to be also Rural Dean of Hatfield (St Albans).

Mr N.D. Hazell and Miss D.D. Glendinning
The engagement is announced between Neil, younger son of Mr and Mrs G.E. Hazell, of Cranleigh, Surrey, and Rachel, daughter of Mr and Mrs G.E. Hazell, of Cranleigh, Surrey, and Rachel, daughter of Mr and Mrs G.E. Hazell, of Cranleigh, Surrey.

Mr R.S. Philby and Miss S.S.L.C. Howie
The engagement is announced between Richard, elder son of Mr and Mrs S.A. Philby, of Vaudouze, Surrey, and Miss S.S.L.C. Howie, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Howie, of Henley-on-Thames, Oxon.

Mr R.L. Stedair and Miss R.V. Francis
The engagement is announced between Robert, elder son of Mr and Mrs S.A. Stedair, of Dalston, Cumbria, and Rachel Victoria, daughter of Dr and Mrs John M. Francis, of Edinburgh.

Mr R.A.V. Smith and Miss S.V. Langmore
The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Dr and Mrs Roderick Smith, of King's Lynn, and Susan, youngest daughter of Professor and Mrs Donald Langmore, of Staines.

Mr C.E.M. Wainwright and Miss J.E. Lister
The engagement is announced between Charles, eldest son of the late Mr Simon Stone and of Mrs Carol Stone, of Farnham, Surrey, and Elizabeth, daughter of Mr and Mrs Geoffrey Lister, of Weybridge, Surrey.

Mr A.D. Sutherland and Miss H.R. Packer
The engagement is announced between Angus David, son of Mr and Mrs W.S. Sutherland, of Selkirk, Roxburghshire, and Helen, daughter of Mr and Mrs A.D. Packer, of Bickley, Kent.

Mr W.R. Temple and Miss C.J. Chambers
The engagement is announced between William, elder son of Major General J.R. Temple, of West Wimmerley, Wiltshire, and Mrs Peter Adams, of Bath, and Camilla, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Nicholas Chambers, of Ringmer, Sussex.

Marriage

Major D.W.D. Barnes and Mrs G.E. Stevenson
A service of blessing was held at St Michael's, Chester Square, on Thursday, January 19, after the marriage of Major Denis Barnes to Mrs Gillian Stevenson, nee Eastwood. A reception will be held at a later date.

Mr J. O'Hara and Miss C.R. Fenn-Smith
The engagement is announced between Joseph, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Edward O'Hara, of Carnarvon, Gwynedd, and Catherine, daughter of Mr Gay Fenn-Smith, of Pimlico, London, and Mrs Jane Fenn-Smith, of Milford-on-Sea, Hampshire.

Mr R.S. Philby and Miss S.S.L.C. Howie
The engagement is announced between Richard, elder son of Mr and Mrs S.A. Philby, of Vaudouze, Surrey, and Miss S.S.L.C. Howie, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Howie, of Henley-on-Thames, Oxon.

Mr R.L. Stedair and Miss R.V. Francis
The engagement is announced between Robert, elder son of Mr and Mrs S.A. Stedair, of Dalston, Cumbria, and Rachel Victoria, daughter of Dr and Mrs John M. Francis, of Edinburgh.

Mr R.A.V. Smith and Miss S.V. Langmore
The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Dr and Mrs Roderick Smith, of King's Lynn, and Susan, youngest daughter of Professor and Mrs Donald Langmore, of Staines.

Mr C.E.M. Wainwright and Miss J.E. Lister
The engagement is announced between Charles, eldest son of the late Mr Simon Stone and of Mrs Carol Stone, of Farnham, Surrey, and Elizabeth, daughter of Mr and Mrs Geoffrey Lister, of Weybridge, Surrey.

Mr A.D. Sutherland and Miss H.R. Packer
The engagement is announced between Angus David, son of Mr and Mrs W.S. Sutherland, of Selkirk, Roxburghshire, and Helen, daughter of Mr and Mrs A.D. Packer, of Bickley, Kent.

Mr W.R. Temple and Miss C.J. Chambers
The engagement is announced between William, elder son of Major General J.R. Temple, of West Wimmerley, Wiltshire, and Mrs Peter Adams, of Bath, and Camilla, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Nicholas Chambers, of Ringmer, Sussex.

Marriage

Major D.W.D. Barnes and Mrs G.E. Stevenson
A service of blessing was held at St Michael's, Chester Square, on Thursday, January 19, after the marriage of Major Denis Barnes to Mrs Gillian Stevenson, nee Eastwood. A reception will be held at a later date.

TRADE: 071 481 1982
PRIVATE: 071 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

FAX: 071 481 9313
FAX: 071 782 7828

DEATHS

BANDARATHILAKA - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BEST-SHAW - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BEST-SHAW - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BEST-SHAW - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BEST-SHAW - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BEST-SHAW - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BEST-SHAW - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BEST-SHAW - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BEST-SHAW - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BEST-SHAW - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BEST-SHAW - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BEST-SHAW - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BEST-SHAW - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BEST-SHAW - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BEST-SHAW - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BEST-SHAW - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BEST-SHAW - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BEST-SHAW - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BEST-SHAW - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BEST-SHAW - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BEST-SHAW - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BEST-SHAW - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BEST-SHAW - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BEST-SHAW - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

DEATHS

BANDARATHILAKA - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BANDARATHILAKA - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BANDARATHILAKA - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BANDARATHILAKA - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BANDARATHILAKA - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BANDARATHILAKA - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BANDARATHILAKA - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BANDARATHILAKA - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BANDARATHILAKA - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BANDARATHILAKA - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BANDARATHILAKA - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BANDARATHILAKA - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BANDARATHILAKA - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BANDARATHILAKA - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BANDARATHILAKA - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BANDARATHILAKA - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BANDARATHILAKA - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BANDARATHILAKA - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

BANDARATHILAKA - On 18th January, at home, suddenly, at the age of 82, Mr. B. B. Bandarathilaka, formerly Secretary to the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, formerly Secretary to the

OBITUARIES

VISCOUNT COWDRAY

Lord Cowdray, president of the Pearson Group, died in hospital in Midhurst, West Sussex, yesterday aged 84. He was born on February 27, 1910.

LORD COWDRAY endured the unenviable reputation of being, next to the Duke of Westminster, the richest peer and one of the richest men in Britain. More important, the business empire, of which he was the head for more than twenty years, stretched into astonishingly diverse and powerful areas of the economy. It is a pity that the interest in business journalism and the preoccupation with money and economic affairs were so very marked. Lord Cowdray should have remained to most people merely a shadowy figure and a somewhat awesome name.

Cowdray was from 1954 to 1977 the chairman of S. Pearson and Son (now the Pearson Group), a business conglomerate whose origins — along with the Pearson family fortune — can be traced back to the Yorkshire builder and financier, Weetman Pearson, a romantic figure, notable for his ambitious and vigorous engineering and financial enterprises in the last quarter of the 19th century. Weetman Pearson, the 1st Viscount Cowdray, built his company into the world's leading contracting business. Early this century he also founded the Mexican Eagle Oil (subsequently sold to Shell), and helped to establish the present shape of the Pearson Group by buying an interest in the investment bankers, Lazard Brothers, and forming a syndicate to purchase the Westminster Gazette newspaper.

Under Lord Cowdray, the 3rd Viscount, who succeeded his father in 1933, the Pearson Group expanded to become one of the country's largest publishing and newspaper concerns. Today it controls, among other interests, the Financial Times (linked in turn to The Economist and the Investors Chronicle), Penguin Books, Viking, Longman, the Westminster Press, the Tussaud Group, Thames



Lord Cowdray and right at Cowdray Park, 1952

Television and a large number of provincial newspapers and printing concerns; it also holds a 50 per cent stake in Lazard Brothers.

Under Cowdray's leadership, the most interesting aspect of the Pearson Group was a shrewdly planned rationalisation and extension of its wide-ranging business interests. Most public attention, probably rightly, concentrated on its management of the affairs of the Financial Times, control of which was bought (through the Financial News) in 1957. On



foundations laid by Lords Bracken and Drogheda, together with a talented management and editorial team, the Financial Times grew in circulation between 1950 and 1972 from about 59,000 to 172,500; its daily sale today is nearly 300,000.

The emphasis of the group under the

3rd Lord Cowdray was very much on the carefully calculated acquisition of profitable enterprises and skilled management. His corporate strategy was based upon concentration on fields where the group had acquired particular expertise, shedding interests in the process of consolidation and then seeking profitable enterprises linked to its main activities. A measure of its success can be seen from the figures revealed when, in 1969, S. Pearson and Son decided to offer shares to the public, chiefly because of the menace of eventual substantial death duties. The group was capitalised on flotation at about £80 million, constituting the biggest equity flotation on the British market until then and taking it into the ranks of the 75 largest British quoted companies. In 1970, its first full year as a public company, the group's total pre-tax profits were £13.8 million. In 1954, the first full year of Cowdray's chairmanship, they had been just £630,000.

Remote from the public eye, Cowdray impressed his business contemporaries by his skill in choosing management, particularly the select group of senior executives and family relations who to some extent shared his personal reticence and his notable determination to run the group on principles of thorough delegation and devolution. Despite this structure, Cowdray consistently maintained at main board level a close personal interest in the complex affairs of the group, as a whole.

Weetman John Churchill Pearson, the son of the 2nd Viscount Cowdray and of Agnes Beryl, the daughter of Lord Edward Spencer Churchill, was educated at Eton and Christ Church, Oxford. In the Lords he was parliamentary private secretary to the Under-Secretary of State for Air, 1941-42. Although he lost an arm at Dunkirk he for years proudly listed his leisure pursuits as shooting, fishing, hunting and polo, which he continued to play with the aid of an artificial arm into the 1960s, thereafter limiting his activities on the field to umpiring. In truth, he was largely responsible for the somewhat

surprising revival of British polo in the post-imperial era.

His father, who was chairman of the Hurlingham Polo Association until his death, had laid out the now famous Lawns and River grounds at his home, Cowdray Park, Midhurst in West Sussex, and his son — more than reflecting his parent's enthusiasm for the game — rose to a handicap of four by 1939. Ten years later he was still to be seen captaining the Cowdray Park team, completed by three of his dedicated polo-playing sisters.

When polo was moribund in England in the late 1940s Cowdray got a number of three-a-side teams into action. The Argentine pundits saw some of them playing at Cowdray Park and promptly invited Cowdray to select and take a team to Buenos Aires. The squad went on to Chile, where it was convincingly victorious. Thanks almost entirely to Cowdray's own zeal, more than 12,000 people turned out to watch in 1953 the revived international matches for the Coronation Cup. The Duke of Edinburgh was a regular member of Lord Cowdray's team in the 1950s. Following in his father's footsteps, Cowdray himself was chairman of the Hurlingham Polo Association, the game's governing body, for 20 years from 1947 to 1967.

Right up to the time of his death, Lord Cowdray kept a sustained interest in the affairs of the Pearson Group — now run by his nephew, Lord Blakenham. In this sense, the continuing family link sheltered him from publicity, which he dreaded. He rejoiced in the reputation of being a man who never gave interviews.

He married in 1939 Lady Anne Bridgeman, daughter of the 5th Earl of Bradford. This marriage ended in divorce in 1950. He married, secondly in 1953, Elizabeth Georgiana Mather, daughter of Sir Anthony Mather-Jackson, Bt. He had one son and two daughters by his first marriage and a son and two daughters by his second. His wife and all his children survive him. The son by his first marriage, Michael Pearson, inherits the viscountcy.



Eric Stadlen, a pioneer of broadcast journalism, died on January 10 aged 77. He was born on April 18, 1917.

ERIC STADLEN was one of the earliest producers of Radio News. He was also instructor and mentor to many now well-known broadcasters. One of several refugees from the Nazis who joined the BBC during the war, he helped to initiate some key developments and was the chief producer in the first experiment which led to the broadcasting of Parliament.

Born in Vienna of Jewish parents, he studied ethnology and languages at Vienna University. As a boy he was an active member of a nationalist paramilitary group dedicated

to opposing the unification of Austria with Nazi Germany. Chance found him in London in 1938 at the time of the Anschluss when he had come to visit his brother. He then joined with his brother in getting his family out of Vienna and enrolled in a Quaker group dedicated to rescuing refugees from Nazi persecution.

Through a fortuitous encounter in 1939, he was hired by the author and critic Harold Nicolson to do occasional translating and writing for him. He then, again through Nicolson, became involved in counter-propaganda at the Ministry of Information then headed by Alfred Duff Cooper.

It was in 1942 that he began his long career with the BBC.

For 26 years he was a key figure in the news features department, fulfilling at different times the roles of scriptwriter, producer and editor. He was the last executive editor of the department before it was replaced by current affairs. As well as Radio News, he was in charge of many special projects, including the coverage of general elections, state funerals and weddings.

In 1969 he changed direction and became dedicated to the task of bringing on new journalistic talent in the BBC by becoming an instructor, and co-founder of the Corporation's journalist training scheme. It was a happy time for him: teaching combined his love of language (as a young man he had written in German) and his affinity with young people.

Among those he trained are Jeremy Paxman, Nicholas Witchell, Brian Hanrahan, Tony Hall (Director of News and Current Affairs at the BBC) and Peter Stothard (Editor of The Times).

After he retired from the BBC in 1977, he went to New Zealand to reorganise the commercial network and local news output of Radio New Zealand. He then joined the City University as a lecturer in the postgraduate diploma course on radio journalism.

Eric Stadlen was a cultured man of wide and varied interests. He was a first-class bridge player, often playing into the small hours, especially in Belfast where sometimes his gambling losses, and very occasionally his winnings, were the talk of the Europa Hotel.

He was a striking-looking, stocky man with a fine baritone voice. He had a strong religious faith which took him through the Oxford Group and finally to the Christian Community, a small High Church fellowship based in Hammersmith, to whose magazine he became a regular contributor.

Eric Stadlen married Pamela Jones in 1973. The marriage was dissolved last year. He is survived by their three sons.

Michael Wrigley, OBE, former intelligence officer, racehorse owner and breeder, died on January 13 aged 70. He was born on July 30, 1924.

A MAN of strong likes and dislikes, Michael Wrigley was capable of inspiring admiration and loyalty, amounting almost to hero-worship, among his contemporaries and his juniors; but he was equally capable of provoking the reverse. To his colleagues in the Secret Intelligence Service it sometimes seemed that Wrigley would have been more at home in an earlier epoch — as the landlord of his inheritance — acres in Yorkshire rather than as a member of a structured and disciplined service. But he was a notable figure in the Service and certainly its leading expert on Thailand in which he accomplished three tours of duty (1956-59, 1961-64 and 1964-71).

Michael Harold Wrigley was educated at Harrow and Worcester College, Oxford, where he was a cricket Blue. Cricket and, to an even greater extent, racing were to remain consuming interests throughout his life. His wartime service was in the Rifle Brigade, with whom he served from 1943 to 1947. For the last few months of his military service he was employed at Security Intelligence Middle East where he came to know Maurice Oldfield. The latter became a lifelong friend and godfather to one of his daughters. It was Oldfield who introduced Wrigley to SIS in 1950; and he remained with the Service until his retirement in 1976.

It was as a specialist on Thailand, and on South-East Asia generally, that Wrigley made his professional reputation. His service overseas was confined to that area, including Singapore and Kuala Lumpur, apart from an early posting to Brussels. He came to know a great deal about South-East Asia, particularly Thailand, and he developed close and sympathetic relations with many of his professional colleagues: he

was greatly respected and liked in Thailand.

Within his own Service, he was not always an easy colleague. He had a strong conviction of the rightness of his own judgment and little patience with orthodox channels for advancing projects in which he believed. For his work in SIS he was appointed OBE in 1971.

Upon his retirement, racing became his prime preoccupation. On the Turf he symbolised the sterling contribution that the North of England often makes to the administration of racing. His green and red hooped colours were justly popular both in Yorkshire and also on the Scottish circuits. He was a steward at no fewer than four Yorkshire courses: Beverley, Potters, Redcar and York. In 1983 he was elected to the Jockey Club, serving on its disciplinary committee between 1985 and 1987, then on the first disciplinary review committee in 1991 and 1992.

He had several trainers, all in Yorkshire: the late "Rufus" Beasley, "Mick" Easterby and Jimmy Etherington, and their successes for him were mostly

with horses he himself had produced at his Ganton Hall stud, near Scarborough.

Wrigley owned the unraced brood mare Love Seat, who produced winners for him in the sprinter Resin who took the Ailes Craig Handicap at Ayr in 1976, as well as the fillies Bernardine and Fitterdale Fitterdale, in turn, foaled for him another successful sprinter in Vanishing Trick as well as Jovevorth who triumphed at 50-1 in the 1989 Ayr Gold Cup, although not carrying Wrigley's racing silks.

Yet another good horse he bred (out of Love Seat) — but did not subsequently own — was Boudadart, who had eight victories including the 1993 Martell Aintree Chase.

Racing apart, Wrigley was a sportsman with forthright views laced with dry wit, not least on Yorkshire cricket. The old-style perfection of his shooting parties at Ganton Hall was renowned. He was a large man: a formidable physical presence. He was a person to whom it was difficult to be indifferent.

He leaves a widow, Phillida, two daughters and two sons.



PERSONAL COLUMN

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANIMALS IN NEED
We are looking for people who can help us to find homes for animals in need. If you are interested, please contact us at 01223 313131.

We will never forget you
Please remember the names of those who have died in the past year. The names will be printed in the next issue of the magazine.

HELPING HOUSE THE HOMELESS
Donations are urgently needed to enable us to buy more houses and to help the homeless. Please contact us at 01223 313131.

Old and Fit
NOT Old and Sick
Help us make old and fit a fact of life. A donation now and a legacy later, please.

RESEARCH INTO AGING
Help us make old and fit a fact of life. A donation now and a legacy later, please.

THE TIMES Valentine's Day
in association with Parfums Cacharel

Tell someone you're in love!

Write your message in the spaces provided below (one word per box minimum 5 lines)

Price with gift

£18.00	£27.00
£23.00	£32.00
£29.00	£38.00

All prices include VAT

As a token of your love we have an exclusive arrangement with Parfums Cacharel, who for an additional £9.00, will send the one you love a bottle of Analis Eau de Toilette (30ml) for the ladies or a bottle of Cacharel Pour Homme Eau de Toilette (30ml) for the gentlemen, together with a card to say 'Look for your message in The Times on Valentine's Day.'

Please tick box if you would like to send a gift ☐

Please send gift to: _____ Address: _____
Postcode: _____

I enclose cheque / PO for £ _____ made payable to Times Newspapers Ltd
Please debit my credit card for £ _____ Card no _____
Expiry date: _____

Surname: _____ Signature: _____
Address: _____ Initial: _____
Postcode: _____ Telephone: _____

Send coupon with your remittance to:
Valentine's Messages, The Times, PO Box 481, 1 Virginia Street, London E19BL
or Fax: 071-782-7827. Credit Card Bookings Tel: 071-481-4000.

All messages with gift must be received no later than Wednesday 8th February 1995. We reserve the right to omit an advertisement at our discretion.

THE SIEGE OF PARIS

(From Our Special Correspondent)
HEADQUARTERS, CROWN PRINCE OF PRUSSIA'S ARMY, VERSAILLES, JAN 14.

... At 2 o'clock a.m. a company of the [Bavarian] regiment made an assault with the bayonet, before which the French fled away into their trenches. There was much loss of ammunition, and not much of life, as the casualties in the 15th Regiment do not exceed 12 men killed and wounded. There was a similar sortie nearer to us in front of Meudon, in pursuance of a reconnaissance against the Prussian works. If the French wanted full information as to the position and extent of these works they got it at the cost of some lives, but they did not do any damage or succeed in occupying any part of the trenches permanently. It is the opinion of some officers that the group of batteries on the plateau over Sceaux, etc., is rather overdone, and that the concentration of so many works there draws a converging fire which is sure to hit something. Subject to remarks made in previous letters respecting the action of the rifled ordnance, it must be admitted that these sharp-fronted projectiles do great execution in gabbardies and earthworks. The practice made by some guns is admirable — too good to be at all pleasant. There is a garden wall at a hot line

ON THIS DAY

January 20 1871

The siege of Paris in the Franco-Prussian War began in September 1870 and lasted until January 28, 1871. In March, the Germans entered the city, remaining there for 48 hours.

residence in which some friends of mine are stationed, which has three holes in it, big enough for a man to jump through, made by a gun either last, which is 4,800 yards away, or at Point du Jour, which is 6,600 yards distant. They must practise at the house by signals from Ville-Juif, in order to annoy the columns of troops in the valley near at hand, or to interfere with the passage of the trains along the road at this point. There are several indications of this kind. It is now known that the German batteries can reach the Seine. A shell, intended probably for the Hotel de Ville, has dropped on or near to Fort St Michel, by the island de la Cité, and there is a story in the papers from Paris that another projectile has

committed execution in a girls' seminary, where several pupils were killed. Fort St Michel is upwards of 10,000 yards, or 30 inches each, from the battery. To a distant observer from one of the batteries Paris does not seem much injured, but a face destroyed by pock-marks does not reveal its ugliness a long way off. As yet there is no symptom that the Council of Generals has made any modifications in the defence. To-day there was unusual silence in the afternoon. Something was observed to be on fire in the Crown Prince Redoubt, over by Ville d'Avray, but I could not ascertain if it was caused by a French shell or by accident inside. There is still smoke rising at times from Fort Issy. Some of the fires in the suburbs may be caused by the French clearing away useless houses to open the front of the entrenchment. French shells set fire to houses in Châtillon and Clamart on the 13th, but they were extinguished without difficulty. That night bells were heard ringing in the city in all the churches, and a great movement of carts and of trains on the railroad, which has not ceased running, was heard. At 10 o'clock the sound of a heavy cannonade, musketry, and mitrailleuses came from the north and north-east, as if the French had made a sortie. This coincided with the sortie in Clamart. The weather is still most bitter, and at night there is a dense fog.



INFOTECH 31-34

Fun and games with the latest interactive CDs



ARTS 35-37

Portrait of the woman Man Ray pictured



SPORT 38-44

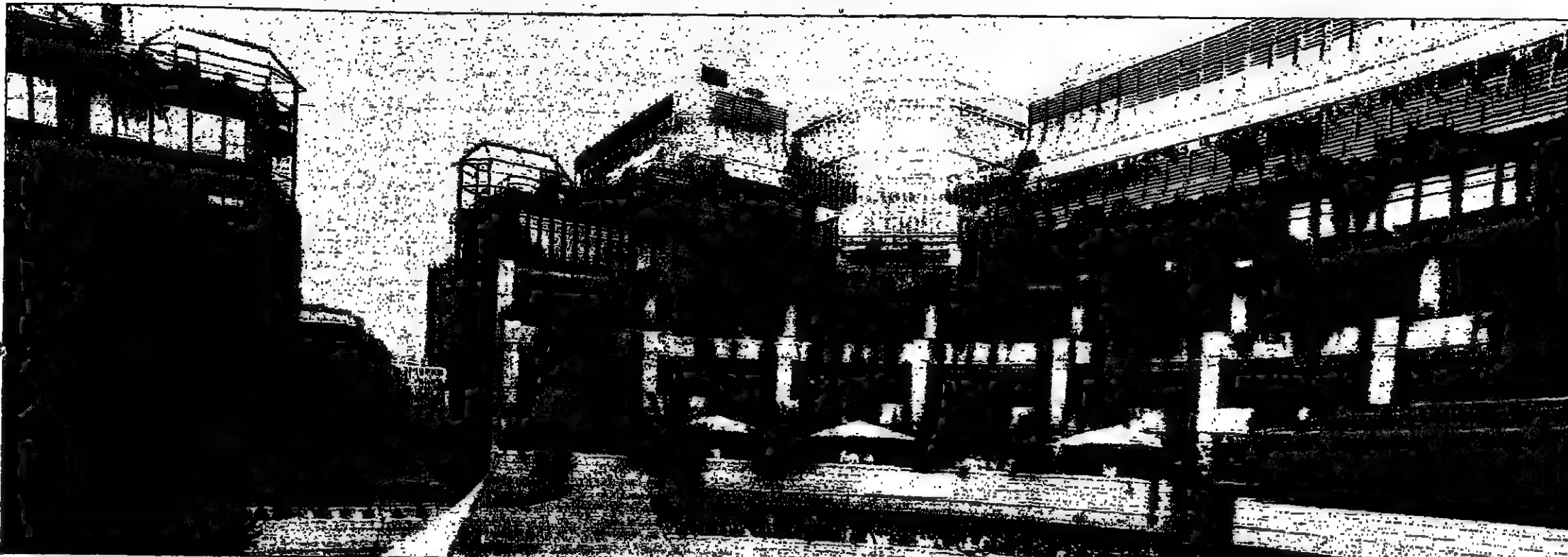
Bates wilts in the heat of battle

TELEVISION AND RADIO
Page 42-43

THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

FRIDAY JANUARY 20 1995



The £1 billion prize: Broadgate, the 1 million sq ft office and retail development at Liverpool Street in the City, built in a joint venture between Stanhope Properties and Rosehaugh, is now within British Land's grasp

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES		
FT-SE 100	3028.8	(-28.8)
Yield	4.26%	
FT-SE All share	1533.00	(-10.85)
Nikkei	19075.74	(-147.57)
Dow Jones	3901.39	(-27.50)
S&P Composite	467.73	(-1.98)
US RATE		
Federal Funds	5 1/8%	(5%)
Long Bond	7.80%	(7.75%)
LONDON MONEY		
3-month Interbank	6 1/4%	(6 1/4%)
Life long rate	10 1/2%	(10 1/2%)
STERLING		
New York	1.5785	(1.5883)
London	1.5785	(1.5701)
DM	2.2391	(2.2427)
FF	2.3680	(2.3710)
SP	2.0212	(2.0240)
Yen	166.08	(166.23)
S index	78.9	(79.5)
DOLLAR		
London	1.5785	(1.5843)
DM	2.2391	(2.2427)
SP	2.0212	(2.0240)
Yen	166.08	(166.23)
S index	78.9	(79.5)
MONTHLY SEA OIL		
Brent 15-day (Apr)	\$16.85	(\$16.78)
GOLD		
London close	\$388.78	(\$389.05)

NHL faces battle

National Home Loans, the mortgage lending group, is facing a battle with some of its preference shareholders who are demanding better terms in the company's financial reorganisation. Report 25: Tempus 26

Damages sought

A legal action claiming damages of £575 million from Swiss Bank Corporation, Ernst & Young and Bacon & Woodrow begins in the High Court on Monday. The case centres on the takeover by a Dutch reinsurer of Victory Reinsurance from Legal & General in 1990. The three firms advised the Dutch company. Page 24

Higher rates take a step nearer

By JANET BUSH

BUOYANT Christmas spending on the high street coupled with figures showing higher inflation in industry and retailing yesterday shortened the odds on a further rise in base rates during the next two months. Retail sales rose 0.5 per cent in December, having been flat in October and November, says the Central Statistical Office. December's rise pushed annual growth in retail sales up to 3.8 per cent, against 2.6 per cent in November. The City had been expecting a more modest rise in sales volumes in December, of 0.3 per cent. Taking yesterday's figures with the unexpected jump in retail price inflation last month and this week's figures showing slightly disappointing rises in factory gate prices, economists were convinced that the case for a base rate rise before the end of March is much stronger. The Chancellor and the

GROUP of Seven finance ministers and central bank governors are to meet in Toronto on February 3 and 4 and are likely to discuss recent turbulence in the financial markets following the collapse of the Mexican peso. Paul Martin, Canadian Finance Minister, said that the G7 would review global economic conditions, but he gave no details. There have been rumours that a G7 meeting was to be convened for the past two weeks as bond and currency markets have been hard hit by turbulence.

Governor of the Bank of England next week to discuss interest rates on February 2 and many in the City are expecting another move in rates. Key to these expectations will be next week's preliminary figures for fourth-quarter gross domestic product. If these show that growth has been holding up near to the recent 4 per cent quarterly levels, speculation of higher rates is likely to intensify. Some economists said that the trend in sales volumes remains sluggish in spite of December's figures and suggested that the authorities may decide to wait until their March meeting, and for January's prices and sales figures, given that December is a volatile statistical month. Sales in the last three months of last year were up only 0.5 per cent compared with the previous three months. Average quarter-on-quarter gains in 1993 were 1.4 per cent, says Salomon Brothers. However, other economists said that the acute price sensitivity of consumers that has underpinned the spectacular inflation performance seen during the recovery may have started to wane. Sales volumes put in a healthy rise in spite of higher prices. Kevin Darlington, of Hoare Govett, said: "This week's RPI

figures suggested that the period of heavy discounting on the high street may have come to an end. The sales figures imply that consumers may be willing to spend their money even without the lure of such price cuts. Sales of household goods rose 1.8 per cent in the three months to December, compared with the previous three months. Gains in sales were across the board except for other "non-food" outlets. Smaller stores are finding it difficult to compete on price. Richard Brown, Deputy Director-General of the British Chambers of Commerce, welcomed the overall sales figures: "Much of this improvement has occurred through price cuts and aggressive selling." Interest free credit, an effective price cut, is not reflected in the retail price index, which may, therefore, be overstating inflation. Christmas late, page 27

Rivals of Halifax leave rates alone

By ANNE ASHWORTH
PERSONAL FINANCE EDITOR

LENDERS have drawn battle lines in the fight for mortgage market share. The Abbey National and the Cheltenham & Gloucester yesterday announced that they have no current plans to follow the Halifax, which has raised its loan rate 0.25 per cent, to 8.55 per cent for new borrowers and will do so for existing customers from February 1. Only two leading societies have raised their rates. The Nationwide is moving to 8.44 per cent, an increase of 0.30 per cent, the National & Provincial to 8.45 per cent, a rise of 0.36 per cent. Others are hanging fire, while the Woolwich is expected to make an announcement today. Andrew Longhurst, chief executive of the C&G, said there was no reason to raise its rate "at the present time". The society will review the position if there are further base rate rises. The Abbey said that it was reluctant to raise rates but was keeping a close watch, bearing in mind the interests of its 10 million savers. The Halifax's decision to limit the increase puts the society on a very competitive footing with smaller societies who have been jostling for share in a sluggish market. Those smaller lenders who adjusted their rates in the wake of December's 0.50 per cent base rate rise to 6.25 per cent chose to move their mortgage rates to about 8.50 per cent. The Northern Rock opted for 8.54 per cent. Mike Blackburn, chief executive of the Halifax, said: "By limiting the increase to 0.25 per cent, we hope to minimise the impact on our borrowers and the housing market generally." But the society believes further rises are inevitable and has forecast a rate of 9 per cent by Christmas. The Halifax has 1.86 million borrowers, whose consent will be required for the merger. Home Loans battle, page 25

British Land buys Stanhope Properties

By CARL MORTISHED

BRITISH LAND has emerged victorious in the first stage of its battle to acquire the £1 billion Broadgate Properties, with a recommended takeover of Stanhope Properties, owner of a half share in the prestigious City development. It is offering 3p a share for the remainder of Stanhope, worth £3.5 million, while the Stanhope banking syndicate owed £148 million, has agreed to accept £122 million, or 82.4p in the pound, in repayment. Stanhope shareholders are being offered an alternative of 2.7p in British Land shares. British Land intends to finance the takeover with a share issue. Brokers were speculating that British Land would launch a £125 million convertible issue prior to March 31, the deadline to repay Stanhope's bankers. John Riblat, British Land's chairman, said friendly discussions had taken place with KPMG Peat Marwick, the receiver of Rosehaugh, which controls the other half of Broadgate Properties. The Broadgate and Ludgate developments are financed with a £770 million loan and analysts think British Land's gearing could soar to 145 per cent if it took over Rosehaugh's stake. The deal ends a 3-year fight by Stanhope and its advisers to keep the heavily indebted company afloat and spells defeat for PostTel and Alastair Ross Goobey, its chief. The post office pension fund launched a rival Broadgate bid after British Land had gained 29 per cent of Stanhope. PostTel was ultimately defeated by the tenuous joint venture agreement put in place by Godfrey Bradman, former boss of Rosehaugh. PostTel's offer of up to £120 million for the Rosehaugh stake was recommended by the receiver to the Rosehaugh banking syndicate. However, pre-emption rights under the joint venture prevented PostTel from doing a deal without securing control of Stanhope at the same time, where British Land blocked the way. British Land intends to defray the cost of its bid for

Saatchi issues \$50m writ

By MARTIN WALLER
DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

SAATCHI & SAATCHI, the strife-ridden advertising combine, has wheeled out its biggest gun yet in its battle against defecting executives, a \$50 million New York court writ. The target for this legal blunderbuss is Bill Muirhead, former head of US operations for the group's Saatchi & Saatchi World Wide agency and one of the so-called "three amigos" who quit last week in protest at the sacking of Maurice Saatchi, the group's founder. All four men are the target of writs in Britain alleging breach of their contracts with the company, but Mr Muirhead's New York base permits Saatchi & Saatchi to broaden the legal battle to the American courts. The writ against Mr Muirhead, in the Supreme Court of the State of New York, was served in Britain, where he is currently resident and thought to be talking to Mr Saatchi about the latter's plans for a new agency. It alleges breach of contract and misappropriation of confidential information. Mr Muirhead said the action would be "vigorously defended". He added: "The figure of \$50 million claimed... has no basis and seems designed only to attract news headlines and to intimidate me."

MPs to scrutinise defence industry

By ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

MEMBERS of two influential all-party Commons select committees are to mount a joint inquiry into defence procurement in Britain. The combined hearings by the Defence and the Trade and Industry committees will bring government policy and company strategies under scrutiny at a time when the defence industry, Britain's biggest, faces unprecedented pressures for pan-European rationalisation. Malcolm Rifkind, the Defence Secretary, and Roger Freeman, the Procurement Minister, will be obliged for the first time to justify the impact of their decisions and strategy on Britain's industrial base and military capability. Senior industrialists from companies such as British Aerospace, GEC and Vickers will also be called to give evidence. This is believed to be the first joint inquiry since the system of select committees was established in Parliament in 1979. Ministers have always maintained that each committee should scrutinise the work of individual government departments. The inquiry may take the form of a joint sub-committee of the two select committees. All sides are understood to have agreed in principle to a joint inquiry because of the far-reaching impact of defence equipment purchases. Defence manufacturing accounts for 9 per cent of GDP and 400,000 jobs. Comrades in arms, page 27

Small firms undercharged by the taxman

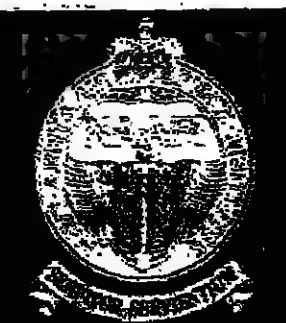
COMPANY directors and small businesses are being undercharged on their tax returns by £100 million a year, according to a report published by MPs yesterday (Michael Dynes writes).

An estimated 1.4 million company directors, and some five million self-employed plumbers, retailers and other small businesses, will now face increased tax demands. Most of the £100 million shortfall is attributable to errors by Inland Revenue tax assessment officials, the Commons Public Accounts Committee said. A separate report by the National Audit Office found that 70 per cent of Schedule D taxpayers (self-employed), and some 25 per cent of Schedule E taxpayers (company directors) received one or more assessments. mainly in UK blue chips. Spearhead, aimed at the more adventurous investor, will concentrate on overseas funds because. Investment Resources of Cambridge, the fund manager, says: "Concentrating on the UK stock market costs you a world of opportunity." The richer pickings on overseas markets more than outweigh any exchange rate risks, reckons IRC's gung-ho managing director, David Charters of IRC. The Naafi appears to have missed out itself on these opportunities. It reported an exchange rate loss of £815,000 in the year to April 30, compared with £16,000 previously. But this is apparently caused by the strength of the mark, just one example of the volatile nature of Naafi finances in the face of world events. Trafalgar and Spearhead will be advertised in the military and conventional press from early February. There will also be a direct mail campaign targeting former armed forces officers and "high net worth" individuals. The Naafi, which is not part of the Ministry of Defence, is a non-profit-making operation.

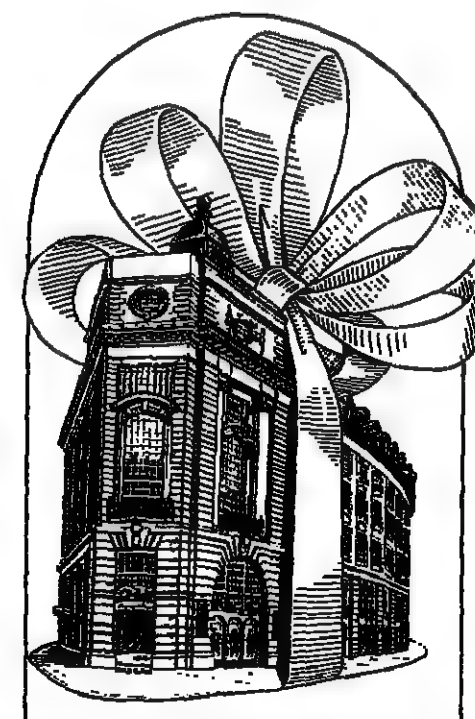
Naafi opens new front in finance war

By LIZ DOLAN

THE NAVY, Army and Air Force Institutes, known to every Tommy, Dick and Jack Tar as the Naafi, is gunning for civilians. After the Government's decision to axe one third of its traditional customer base, Naafi Financial Services is, for the first time, marching on civvy street with two new investment funds, appropriately dubbed Trafalgar and Spearhead. Under a banner headline, *The Investment Minifield and How to Avoid It*, the marketing literature says: "Investment inertia is the enemy of investors for whom active investment management should produce greater returns in the medium to long term." But strongarm tactics will not be used. There are no proposals to send platoons of financial press-gangs out into suburban streets, forcing unwilling investors to sign up for the duration. The plans will be marketed by staff with non-military backgrounds who promise to sell only to consenting members of the public, as well as to service personnel, the organisers say. Trafalgar is a stay-at-home medium risk plan invested



bers of the public, as well as to service personnel, the organisers say. Trafalgar is a stay-at-home medium risk plan invested



Aquascutum

FURTHER 20% OFF ALL SALE PRICES.

Even further reductions on the already impressive savings on men's wear, ladies' wear and accessories.

WRAP UP A GREAT DEAL.

100 Regent Street, London W1. Tel: 071 731 6090. Also at Manchester, Bristol and Dublin.

□ A large pair of shoes to fill □ Pentos ring fences its troubles □ Ritblat outbids Ross Goobey

Strachan's signing

THE bells might have been ringing in the City yesterday as a puff of white smoke emerged from BTR's headquarters in Victoria. Those wise birds on BTR's board have chosen someone to run the £11 billion industrial products company into the next century, and someone the City feels it can do business with.

Ian Strachan, the chosen one, has a curriculum vitae that is the model of the modern manager. After taking a double first from Cambridge and a masters from Princeton he then found himself a comfortable niche in Exxon for 17 years before being snapped up by RTZ to be its finance director.

By all reports, Mr Strachan is a darling of RTZ's institutional shareholders. They particularly like his slide presentations of the goings-on in RTZ's industrial minerals business.

In contrast, the fund managers could never quite get the hang of Alan Jackson, BTR's current chief executive. He was often too rough-edged for their comfort, and did not have the string of academic gongs that they now expect of senior management.

The excitement generated by Strachan's arrival however does Mr Jackson a huge disservice.

More than almost anyone in BTR's history he is responsible for building the company into what it is today, first as head of BTR Nylex and more recently as

chief executive of the entire group. He was the architect of BTR's bid for Hawker Siddeley, a deal he began planning almost as soon as he arrived in London, and one that transformed the scale of the group's activities.

BTR now has an impregnable position in countless basic industrial markets. Mr Jackson has continued to build dominant market shares in the group's basic businesses with opportunistic acquisitions, such as Formica.

While Mr Jackson was driving forward an £11 billion business, Mr Strachan has been running one with a turnover of scarcely £1 billion. The largest transaction he is credited with to date is the disposal of Pillar, RTZ's industrial products division, and a large part of the business he was supposed to be managing. The sheer scale and diversity of BTR's business is likely to come as a tremendous shock to him when he is given the keys to the big office next January.

In choosing an outsider to run BTR, the board has admitted that it did not think anyone within the group was up to the

job. This does a disservice to the leading internal candidate, Kathleen O'Donovan, the finance director. She, however, had two insurmountable handicaps in the race. She is young, and she is a woman. Institutional shareholders, like to see men at the helm of their companies, preferably ones in double-breasted suits from the better class of tailor.

BTR's choice of chief executive could well restore it to City grace after its rapid downfall last year. But however loudly the fund managers may proclaim his coronation, Mr Strachan, still has it all to prove.

The curse of Athena

THERE is nothing like the loss of £7 million to inspire a sense of rancour and bitterness. Much has been said, mostly uncomplimentary, about the ring-fencing operation that has apparently kept large chunks of Pentos's retail operation out of the hands of the receiver and limited the damage to the parent



company from the collapse of Athena.

The unsecured trade creditors of Athena, the poster group that turned up its toes in the dead week between Christmas and New Year, are incensed about the financial reorganisation that means Pentos was not required to stand behind the liabilities of its stricken subsidiary. A study by Chantrey Vellacott, the accountants, gives an idea why.

Consider the position of the average supplier to Athena, perhaps even the contract printer entrusted with the sacred task of producing the ubiquitous tennis poster. He or she trots along to Companies House to discover that the customer is part of a respectable plc and has turnover, of itself,

of £173 million in the latest year on record, 1992. An inquiry to Dun & Bradstreet, the company credit specialist, would have yielded similar information.

So far, so reliable. But at the end of last year a large chunk of that customer, comprising the Dillons and Ryman's retail chains, was transferred out of the business, then known as Pentos Retailing Group. What was left when the receiver arrived enjoyed sales of a mere £45 million and was therefore a rather less solid entity.

The transfer, at full market value courtesy of work by Arthur Andersen and Schroders, was done theoretically to allow Athena to be sold. When negotiations broke down with potential buyers and the receivers went in, those other two retail businesses were, as it turned out, comfortably outside the ring fence.

One justification, and one of which Jeremy Bentham would have been proud, is that putting the three retail chains together would have meant all would have foundered, to the ruin of a far greater number of creditors. True; but the clear

implication is that both Dillons, currently profitable, and Ryman, not yet so but improving, are equally clear from the parent plc. The clear lesson from the Athena saga may not have sunk in to their respective suppliers.

First past the Postel

IT CAN only be a matter of time before British Land pockets the outstanding share in Broadgate Properties. Rosehaugh's receiver may sit on his hands looking clever and content, but he has little choice but to play ball with Mr Ritblat, who has the trump card of a pre-emption right. A benchmark price of £120 million has been set for the stake, and, sooner or later, Rosehaugh's bankers will get bored of waiting for their money. Few investors will be keen to engage in a bid battle with British Land.

Few that is, with the exception of Postel. The behaviour of one of the UK's pension funds in the battle for Broadgate has been astonishing. After seeing British Land quietly slip into the back

door of Stanhope's posh Berkeley Square headquarter with a shareholding of 29 per cent, most property investors would have watched patiently from the sidelines, waiting to take advantage of any sign of failure.

That would be the normal behaviour of a pension fund; institutions like quiet deals and tend to take a back seat in bid battles.

Mr Ross Goobey takes a different view and appears to relish the role of entrepreneur. This is his second tilt at a quoted property company and the second high-profile failure. What is more extraordinary is that this time the cards were stacked against Postel from the start.

The joint venture between Rosehaugh and Stanhope gave each side a right of pre-emption if one party wanted to sell. British Land had a secure seat at the table, but Postel needed both Stanhope and Rosehaugh to agree to its offer. By making an offer to the Rosehaugh receiver, Postel could only succeed in triggering Stanhope's pre-emption right, leaving the pension fund with no secure bargaining position.

Postel's pensioners must be bemused at the buccaneering approach to managing their money, which has yet to show any fruit. The trustees are probably feeling bemused as well.

Dissidents threaten NHL's shake-up

By NEIL BENNETT, DEPUTY BUSINESS EDITOR

NATIONAL HOME LOANS, the mortgage lender, faces a battle with a dissident group of preference shareholders, who are demanding better terms in the company's financial reorganisation.

Gruss Partners, a little-known institutional investment firm, is contacting NHL's preference shareholders and urging them to veto the reorganisation. According to City sources, Gruss claims to speak for holders of 14 per cent of the preference shares.

Gruss is thought to have approached Jonathan Perry, chairman of NHL, to demand a higher stake in the reorganised group in return for its support for the deal.

NHL needs the approval of 75 per cent of preference shareholders to complete its reorganisation, or it could face further difficult negotiations with its bankers. Michael Bell, managing director of Gruss, was unavailable for comment.

NHL yesterday revealed details of the reorganisation, in which preference shareholders are being offered three ordinary shares for each preference share. In return, for waiving their rights their accrued dividends which have not been paid since July 1991. The offer will leave the preference shareholders with three quarters of the votes in the reorganised company.

After the conversion, shareholders will be asked to take part in a £50.3 million rights issue, and the shares will be consolidated on a ten-for-one basis. Holders are being offered three new shares for every 25 they hold in the rights issue at 11p each, or 140p once NHL shares are consolidated.

The financial reconstruction and rights issue will end NHL's three-year fight for survival. The group had to be rescued by the Bank of England in 1991 after the closure of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International unsettled the financial markets. It will provide the company with enough capital to continue lending new mortgages and to start paying dividends once again. Mr Perry yesterday said that the reorganisation was crucial for NHL's continued recovery. "Without the new equity, the company will be at the very least set back in its progress and if that happens one must fear for the share price."

The rights issue has also allowed NHL to renegotiate its bank lending arrangements and put in place a new £160 million facility at a far lower interest rate than before. At the height of its financial troubles, the group was forced to sign a £710 million lending arrangement at a high rate.

Tempus, page 26

BTR choice of Strachan confirmed

BTR yesterday confirmed leaked reports that it has appointed Ian Strachan, the deputy chief executive of RTZ, as its new chief executive, the first time an outsider has been chosen to run the group. He will take up the post when Alan Jackson retires at the beginning of next year (Neil Bennett writes).

The news was received well in the City, which has recently been concerned by the lack of any obvious successor to Mr Jackson. Mr Jackson, who will be 60 next year, will remain chairman of BTR Nylex and a director of the company.

"I've had a wonderful innings, but I think we have found an excellent man," Mr Jackson said yesterday. He said that he was looking forward to returning to his native Melbourne to manage his two farms and 1,400 cattle. BTR said that it is seeking two external non-executive directors, the first time it has looked outside its own executives for board members.

See Pennington, this page



Sir Philip Harris, centre, chairman of Carpetright, yesterday with Ian Sneyd, finance director, left, and John Kitching, sales director

Carpetright beats a declining market

THE success story at Carpetright has continued unabated as the carpet retailer reported a 46 per cent rise in profits in the first half against the backdrop of a declining market (Susan Gilchrist writes).

Sir Philip Harris, chairman, said the carpet market fell about 10 per cent between April and October last year, a victim of the hot weather and contin-

uing stagnant housing market. Carpetright defied the trend, increasing like for like sales 4 per cent.

Pre-tax profits jumped to £8.05 million from £5.51 million in the six months to October 29. Earnings per share rose to 6.8p from 4.7p. The figures were at the top end of City expectations and some analysts up-graded their full-year profit forecasts

by £1 million to about £20 million. The chain now has 12 per cent of Britain's carpet market, double the figure it held when it floated in June 1993.

The group's expansion programme continued with 18 new stores added in the first half bringing the total to 163. A further 22 stores are due to open in the second half. Sir Philip said the group is on track to achieve its target of 250

within the next two and a half years. Sir Philip said current trading was encouraging and the market has begun to stabilise. He forecast a small rise in prices in the spring, the first for more than two years. The interim dividend rises to 3.9p from 2.7p and will be paid on February 24.

Tempus, page 26

US trade deficit nears record low

THE American trade deficit widened to \$10.53 billion in November, indicating a worsening that could make the shortfall for the whole of 1994 the biggest on record.

The Commerce Department said that the deficit in goods and services was 4.3 per cent higher than October's revised \$10.10 billion deficit, laying the blame primarily on the seventh consecutive month of record imports.

Exports, in which the Clinton Administration has invested much political capital, also climbed to record levels in November, lifted by a surge in aircraft sales, to stand 2.2 per cent higher than in October. After 11 months' figures, the 1994 trade deficit was running at an annualised \$152.5 billion, or slightly above the record set in 1987.

Tempus, page 26

Kidder, Peabody charge lops 48% off GE earnings

FROM SEAN MAC CARTHAIGH IN NEW YORK

GENERAL Electric's fourth-quarter earnings have fallen 48 per cent after a one-off charge of \$917 million relating to Kidder, Peabody, the Wall Street investment firm. Profits were down to \$768 million, or 45 cents a share, from \$1.47 billion, or 87 cents a share, for the same period in 1993.

For the year GE said its net income, after a \$1.18 billion loss from the discontinued operations of Kidder, Peabody, rose 10 per cent to \$4.72 billion from \$4.31 billion in 1993, which had seen restructuring charges.

Sales for the three months to December 31, rose almost 5 per cent to \$17.79 billion from \$16.98 billion in the 1993 quarter. Sales for the year rose 8 per cent to \$60.10 billion

from \$55.70 billion in 1993. Kidder, Peabody lurched from one crisis to another in 1994. Joseph Jett, one of its high-flying traders, was fired after he allegedly invented millions of dollars' worth of fake profits to boost his personal bonus. Michael Carpenter, chief executive, and several other top managers, resigned or were fired, and were replaced by GE executives. Finally, after job cuts and defections, GE put an end to its eight-year foray into brokerage by selling Kidder, Peabody to PaineWebber.

For the year GE said 11 of its 12 businesses had higher revenues, and five businesses — GE Capital Services, Motors, Transportation Systems, Plastics, and Information Ser-

vices — made double-digit rises. Operating margins rose to a record 13.6 per cent of sales, an improvement on the previous year's 12.5 per cent.

John Welch, the chairman, said the "record results of 220,000 boundaryless GE employees were at times overshadowed by the well-chronicled Kidder, Peabody issue."

Mr Welch added: "For the year, GE achieved record ongoing earnings, operating margins, cash flows and stock turns, while continuing to reduce debt-to-capital and increasing our returns on investment and equity. We enter 1995 positioned better than ever to deliver a year of record results to our shareholders."

Request for Information

Our client wishes to obtain product information from parties able to supply a packaged Fleet Management System to support the areas of Fleet Management, Finance, Decision Support, Reporting and archival of data. The supplier should provide the following information:

- Hardware, software and database environments the application is designed for;
- Salient features of the package;
- The extent of package usage in Australia and overseas;
- The style of support/maintenance provided by the supplier;
- Indicative licensing costs;
- Quality standards used in developing, distributing and supporting the package;
- Brief history of the supplying/maintaining company.

Please forward all information to:
Natalie Hamilton
Ernst & Young Consulting
GPO Box 2446
Sydney NSW 2001
Australia

The closing date for the Request for Information is 5.00pm on Friday 3 February 1995.

ERNST & YOUNG

L&G figures show pensions market damage

By SARAH BAGNALL, INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

LEGAL & GENERAL, the UK insurer, yesterday revealed the extent of the damage caused to the industry by mis-selling of pensions and the requirement for commissions to be disclosed.

L&G's new business figures for 1994 showed sharp falls in sales in numerous lines of business. Prudential, the UK's largest life insurer, confirmed the tough market conditions with weak new business sales.

L&G's statement, which came an hour and a quarter after the market closed, revealed that worldwide new life and pensions business had fallen 20 per cent to £1.1 billion. In the UK, sales of pension products slumped 26 per cent from £726.1 million to £544.1 million. The biggest decline was sales of single pensions, which tumbled 29 per cent to £471.1

million. The decline in sales of annual pensions was contained to 4 per cent.

Last February L&G was fined £180,000 and forced to pay costs of £220,000 by its regulator after being found guilty of serious rule breaches. David Prosser, chief executive, said: "The UK market has proved difficult in 1994, adding that he did not expect a significant improvement in the operating environment."

Prudential revealed a negligible rise in worldwide sales of life, pensions and investment products in 1994. The shares fell 1p to 316p. A breakdown revealed that regular contribution sales rose 8 per cent to £620 million while single contribution sales were flat at £5.1 billion.

Reflecting the turbulence in the insurance industry in the UK, British new business sales fell 2 per cent. Annual

premium personal pension sales fell 7 per cent to £115 million, while single premium personal pension sales dropped 38 per cent to £249 million.

A company spokesman said that the decline in personal pension sales reflected the industry's "unpopularity" caused by pensions mis-selling and the sharp drop in pension transfers business. The group benefited from better performance elsewhere: investment product sales almost tripled to £96 million while overseas operations lifted sales of both regular and single premium products.

London & Manchester also reported new business figures, buoyed by a 39 per cent leap in sales of corporate pensions. As a result new annual premiums rose 4.3 per cent. Single premium business fell 13.7 per cent. The shares fell 3p to 317p.



David Prosser of L&G: not expecting easier times

STOCK MARKET

MICHAEL CLARK

Demand for Wellcome brings talk of takeover

THERE is no smoke without fire, and yesterday's heavy turnover in shares of Wellcome, the pharmaceutical group, has led some investors to believe that something is afoot.

Wellcome touched 694p, before ending the day 5p better at 684p as almost 10 million shares, worth an estimated £67 million, changed hands. Admittedly, some of the stock was left over from a large program trade the previous evening, but the price has risen 2p in two days and once again there is talk that Glaxo is ready to make a takeover bid.

During the past year the pharmaceutical industry worldwide has been buzzing with news of joint ventures, takeovers and mergers. Big has become beautiful as companies attempt to become major players by splitting the cost of developing new drugs and putting together sizeable portfolios of lucrative products.

Last week's news that the US Food and Drug Administration had refused Wellcome permission to market Zovirax, its cold sore treatment, over the counter came at a blow. Some brokers claim it left the group looking vulnerable.

In the past few years the Wellcome Trust has reduced its holding in the company to 40 per cent. Glaxo, down 12p at 652p, is sitting on a cash mountain of more than £2 billion, but would need to raise more funds to match Wellcome's current price-earnings ratio of about 16.

Elsewhere, share prices generally were weak with losses accelerating towards the close as Wall Street opened sharply lower on the back of a widening US trade gap. This dragged the future lower and the cash market trailed in its wake as pressure for another rise in interest rates on both sides of the Atlantic grew.

Once again trading conditions were thin and by the close of business only 533.1 million shares had been traded. The FT-SE 100 index managed to close just above its low for the day with a fall of 26.3 points at 3,028.6. Markets makers remained cautious, aware that a number of lines of stock were still overhanging the market following Wednesday's large program trade.

BTR marked time at 340p as the City gave a cautious thumbs-up to the appointment of Ian Strachan as chief executive.



Unigate's Ross Buckland is believed near to Nutricia self-off

He will replace Alan Jackson at the end of the year. Strachan was previously with Kitz.

Kingfisher hit a three-year low, with the price easing a further 1 1/2p to 400p as traders continued to reflect on this week's profits warning and the difficult task facing the management in whipping the group back into shape.

It has been a difficult few weeks for Reed International. The price dropped a further 16p to 75p yesterday, with 1.5 million shares traded, after James Capel, the broker, issued a sell recommendation. Earlier this month, Smith New Court, the broker, made a hole in the price by cutting its profits forecast.

RMC Group fell 7p to 949p, despite talk of a profits upgrade from Hoare Govett, the broker. Hoare is believed to have raised its forecast for 1994 by £20 million to £275 million and for 1995 by £22 million to £325 million.

SG Warburg, London's biggest investment bank, advanced 8p to 745p as bid speculation intensified. The share price has jumped 57p in three days amid claims that the group could again be the target of a bid just weeks after breaking off merger talks with Morgan Stanley, the US investment bank.

Warburg could soon find itself on the receiving end of an approach from either one of the big European or American houses. Yesterday early attention focused on the German and the downturn in corporate activity resulted in the group issuing a profits warning towards the end of last year. Meanwhile, Mercury Asset Management, Warburg's separately quoted fund management arm, jumped 19p to 767p. There is talk of Warburg selling off 10 per cent of MAM, raising an estimated £364 million. MAM turned out to be the stumbling block on which the Morgan Stanley bid faltered.

Unigate stood out with a rise of 9p to 359p as the world head of the group, headed by Ross Buckland, is near to disposing of its 32.6 per cent stake in Nutricia, the Dutch baby foods group, to Sandoz for an estimated £200 million. There has been talk in the market place for some time that Unigate has had a "for sale" sign up over the business and would use the proceeds to bid for the likes of Hazlewood Foods, 1p firmer at 109p, after going ex-dividend.

British Land firmed 3p to 363p after finally opening to the green light to bid for Stanhope Properties, the USM-quoted property developer, which owns a half-share in the City's Broadgate development. Proposals to rescue the heavily indebted Stanhope put forward by the Postel pension fund were rejected, leaving the way clear for British Land. It is now set to bid £125.5 million for Stanhope as the first step towards seizing control of the entire Broadgate development. British Land already owns nearly 30 per cent of Stanhope, still suspended at 8p.

GILT-EDGED: Gilts were again dragged lower in early trading on the back of revised inflationary worries. The rise in mortgage rates, and the pickup in retail sales during December provided a dull backdrop to business, but a few cheap buyers later took up the running.

In the future pit, the March series of the long gilt finished a tick firmer at £107 1/2 as 46,000 contracts were traded. At the longer end of the cash market, Treasury 9 per cent 2012 was also a tick firmer at £103 1/2, while in shorts, Treasury 9 1/2 per cent 1999 marked time at £102 1/2.

NEW YORK: US shares were lower at midday, with banks and Japanese ADRs among the losers. The Dow Jones industrial average was down 27.59 at 3,901.39.

and the downturn in corporate activity resulted in the group issuing a profits warning towards the end of last year. Meanwhile, Mercury Asset Management, Warburg's separately quoted fund management arm, jumped 19p to 767p. There is talk of Warburg selling off 10 per cent of MAM, raising an estimated £364 million. MAM turned out to be the stumbling block on which the Morgan Stanley bid faltered.

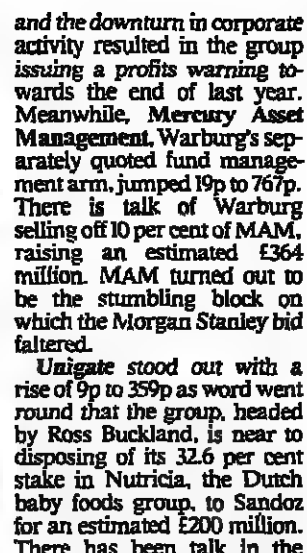
Unigate stood out with a rise of 9p to 359p as the world head of the group, headed by Ross Buckland, is near to disposing of its 32.6 per cent stake in Nutricia, the Dutch baby foods group, to Sandoz for an estimated £200 million. There has been talk in the market place for some time that Unigate has had a "for sale" sign up over the business and would use the proceeds to bid for the likes of Hazlewood Foods, 1p firmer at 109p, after going ex-dividend.

British Land firmed 3p to 363p after finally opening to the green light to bid for Stanhope Properties, the USM-quoted property developer, which owns a half-share in the City's Broadgate development. Proposals to rescue the heavily indebted Stanhope put forward by the Postel pension fund were rejected, leaving the way clear for British Land. It is now set to bid £125.5 million for Stanhope as the first step towards seizing control of the entire Broadgate development. British Land already owns nearly 30 per cent of Stanhope, still suspended at 8p.

GILT-EDGED: Gilts were again dragged lower in early trading on the back of revised inflationary worries. The rise in mortgage rates, and the pickup in retail sales during December provided a dull backdrop to business, but a few cheap buyers later took up the running.

In the future pit, the March series of the long gilt finished a tick firmer at £107 1/2 as 46,000 contracts were traded. At the longer end of the cash market, Treasury 9 per cent 2012 was also a tick firmer at £103 1/2, while in shorts, Treasury 9 1/2 per cent 1999 marked time at £102 1/2.

NEW YORK: US shares were lower at midday, with banks and Japanese ADRs among the losers. The Dow Jones industrial average was down 27.59 at 3,901.39.



Unigate's Ross Buckland is believed near to Nutricia self-off

He will replace Alan Jackson at the end of the year. Strachan was previously with Kitz.

Kingfisher hit a three-year low, with the price easing a further 1 1/2p to 400p as traders continued to reflect on this week's profits warning and the difficult task facing the management in whipping the group back into shape.

It has been a difficult few weeks for Reed International. The price dropped a further 16p to 75p yesterday, with 1.5 million shares traded, after James Capel, the broker, issued a sell recommendation. Earlier this month, Smith New Court, the broker, made a hole in the price by cutting its profits forecast.

RMC Group fell 7p to 949p, despite talk of a profits upgrade from Hoare Govett, the broker. Hoare is believed to have raised its forecast for 1994 by £20 million to £275 million and for 1995 by £22 million to £325 million.

SG Warburg, London's biggest investment bank, advanced 8p to 745p as bid speculation intensified. The share price has jumped 57p in three days amid claims that the group could again be the target of a bid just weeks after breaking off merger talks with Morgan Stanley, the US investment bank.

Warburg could soon find itself on the receiving end of an approach from either one of the big European or American houses. Yesterday early attention focused on the German and the downturn in corporate activity resulted in the group issuing a profits warning towards the end of last year. Meanwhile, Mercury Asset Management, Warburg's separately quoted fund management arm, jumped 19p to 767p. There is talk of Warburg selling off 10 per cent of MAM, raising an estimated £364 million. MAM turned out to be the stumbling block on which the Morgan Stanley bid faltered.

Unigate stood out with a rise of 9p to 359p as the world head of the group, headed by Ross Buckland, is near to disposing of its 32.6 per cent stake in Nutricia, the Dutch baby foods group, to Sandoz for an estimated £200 million. There has been talk in the market place for some time that Unigate has had a "for sale" sign up over the business and would use the proceeds to bid for the likes of Hazlewood Foods, 1p firmer at 109p, after going ex-dividend.

British Land firmed 3p to 363p after finally opening to the green light to bid for Stanhope Properties, the USM-quoted property developer, which owns a half-share in the City's Broadgate development. Proposals to rescue the heavily indebted Stanhope put forward by the Postel pension fund were rejected, leaving the way clear for British Land. It is now set to bid £125.5 million for Stanhope as the first step towards seizing control of the entire Broadgate development. British Land already owns nearly 30 per cent of Stanhope, still suspended at 8p.

GILT-EDGED: Gilts were again dragged lower in early trading on the back of revised inflationary worries. The rise in mortgage rates, and the pickup in retail sales during December provided a dull backdrop to business, but a few cheap buyers later took up the running.

In the future pit, the March series of the long gilt finished a tick firmer at £107 1/2 as 46,000 contracts were traded. At the longer end of the cash market, Treasury 9 per cent 2012 was also a tick firmer at £103 1/2, while in shorts, Treasury 9 1/2 per cent 1999 marked time at £102 1/2.

NEW YORK: US shares were lower at midday, with banks and Japanese ADRs among the losers. The Dow Jones industrial average was down 27.59 at 3,901.39.

and the downturn in corporate activity resulted in the group issuing a profits warning towards the end of last year. Meanwhile, Mercury Asset Management, Warburg's separately quoted fund management arm, jumped 19p to 767p. There is talk of Warburg selling off 10 per cent of MAM, raising an estimated £364 million. MAM turned out to be the stumbling block on which the Morgan Stanley bid faltered.

Unigate stood out with a rise of 9p to 359p as the world head of the group, headed by Ross Buckland, is near to disposing of its 32.6 per cent stake in Nutricia, the Dutch baby foods group, to Sandoz for an estimated £200 million. There has been talk in the market place for some time that Unigate has had a "for sale" sign up over the business and would use the proceeds to bid for the likes of Hazlewood Foods, 1p firmer at 109p, after going ex-dividend.

British Land firmed 3p to 363p after finally opening to the green light to bid for Stanhope Properties, the USM-quoted property developer, which owns a half-share in the City's Broadgate development. Proposals to rescue the heavily indebted Stanhope put forward by the Postel pension fund were rejected, leaving the way clear for British Land. It is now set to bid £125.5 million for Stanhope as the first step towards seizing control of the entire Broadgate development. British Land already owns nearly 30 per cent of Stanhope, still suspended at 8p.

GILT-EDGED: Gilts were again dragged lower in early trading on the back of revised inflationary worries. The rise in mortgage rates, and the pickup in retail sales during December provided a dull backdrop to business, but a few cheap buyers later took up the running.

In the future pit, the March series of the long gilt finished a tick firmer at £107 1/2 as 46,000 contracts were traded. At the longer end of the cash market, Treasury 9 per cent 2012 was also a tick firmer at £103 1/2, while in shorts, Treasury 9 1/2 per cent 1999 marked time at £102 1/2.

NEW YORK: US shares were lower at midday, with banks and Japanese ADRs among the losers. The Dow Jones industrial average was down 27.59 at 3,901.39.

and the downturn in corporate activity resulted in the group issuing a profits warning towards the end of last year. Meanwhile, Mercury Asset Management, Warburg's separately quoted fund management arm, jumped 19p to 767p. There is talk of Warburg selling off 10 per cent of MAM, raising an estimated £364 million. MAM turned out to be the stumbling block on which the Morgan Stanley bid faltered.

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones 7901.30 (-27.59)
S&P Composite 467.73 (-1.90)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Average 19075.74 (-147.57)
Hang Seng 7422.00 (-308.20)

Amsterdam:
Amst 413.51 (-0.94)
BOE Index 1032.37 (-11.47)

Sydney:
ASX 1094.4 (-5.8)

Frankfurt:
DAX 2089.36 (-10.51)

Singapore:
Straits 2081.33 (-22.25)

Brussels:
General 7155.21 (-37.78)

Paris:
CAC-40 1837.11 (-25.18)

Zurich:
SIX Gen 641.40 (-0.30)

London:
FT 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)
FT-SE 100 2309.4 (-8.2)

TEMPUS

Home Loans alone

RECALCITRANT preference shareholders permitting, National Home Loans is on course to pull off a remarkable coup. In the past three years, the company has pulled itself back from the brink of receivership and struggled back to some semblance of corporate normality, despite accumulated losses of £238 million between 1991 and 1993. Yesterday's conversion of the preference shares and accompanying rights issue should complete the company's convalescence, and give it the capital base to fund the expansion of its loan book and even pay dividends.

It is one thing to survive, quite another to prosper. NHL's £1.6 billion loan book is likely to continue shrinking for up to two more years as old borrowers pay off their expensive loans faster than new customers pass the strengthened credit-control procedures. The recession

has made homebuyers wary of centralised lenders, since they gained a deserved reputation for charging exorbitant rates and repossessing quickly when times grew hard.

But there is nothing to prevent NHL. Its popularity among intermediaries, to whom it pays generous commissions. The company's book is more than 10 years old and its costs are low, and the group could make £5 million this year. After the consolidation and cash call, the shares should trade at about 150p, putting them on a reasonable forward p/e ratio of eight and a dividend yield of 3.5 per cent. That is not a bad return, particularly as the newly restored company could become an attractive bid target, now that centralised lending is coming back into fashion.

Carpetright

YET again, Carpetright's profits came in at the top end of City forecasts, with a 46 per cent rise in first-half profits. If it can increase the bottom line at this rate without a recovery in the housing market, one may wonder what it can produce when an upturn finally materialises.

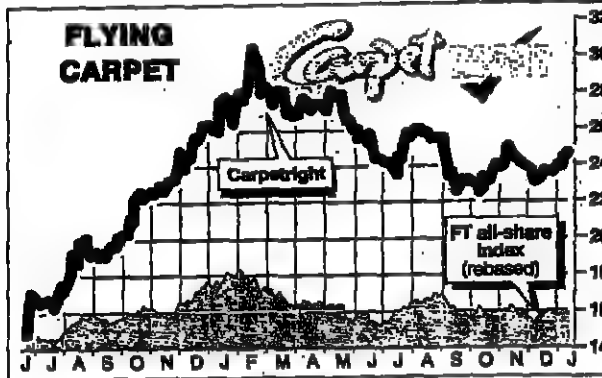
Carpetright has certainly been a beneficiary of the bloodbath going on in the carpet manufacturing industry. Aggressive new entrants and overcapacity have led to fierce price-cutting, which Carpetright has quite rightly been quick to exploit.

However, that is not the whole story. Sir Philip Harris, chairman, has made the most of the group's growing economies of scale. It has, after all, doubled its market share in less than two years. Indeed, it buys some ranges

from suppliers cheaper now than it did a few years ago.

Net operating margins increased to 12.4 per cent from 10.9 per cent in the first half, a figure that leaves most retailers, who are struggling to make it into double digits, looking on enviously. With an upturn in the housing market, margins of 15 per cent are not inconceivable.

Meanwhile the group is accumulating cash at a rate of about £6 million a year. It has no need to diversify away from its core business just yet, because there are still several years of growth to come, but this cash will give the group the resources to fund any expansion plans.



Lasmo

NEWS has been sparse from Lasmo since the oil company fought off the bid from Enterprise Oil last year, and not surprisingly, the company's shares have slipped in a sluggish market and flat oil price.

Unsurprisingly by bid rumour and without substantial evidence of exploration success, investors have little to justify a rating much above the current price of 144p, near enough some estimates of net asset value.

Oil prices of \$16 a barrel do not help, as Lasmo is not making much money at this level and is unlikely to produce profits until cheaper production comes on stream. Earnings are not expected to hit the bottom line until 1996, and even at that stage the market is divided on whether Lasmo will pay a dividend.

Such a dull outlook could be transformed by a boost to the oil price or a substantial discovery. Algeria is looking

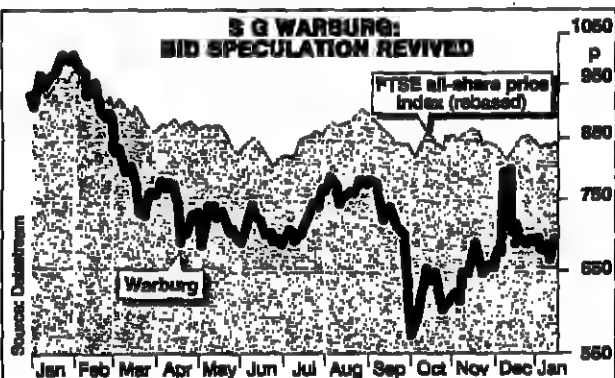
very attractive; the company has a stake in the Ghadames Basin, where estimates of reserves vary between 300-700 million barrels. Unfortunately, hard information is still unavailable and a cynical London market discounts the value of oil at a rate proportionate to its distance from the City. Algerian political strife doesn't help. Long-term, Lasmo is attractive, a view taken seriously by Enterprise Oil and which could be taken seriously again by it, or another company.

the costs of integrating M6 Cash and Carry, and a rash of capital spending throughout the company, but the cost of all this activity has proved much higher than at first thought.

In all, the company estimates it has spent an extra £13.7 million more on store conversions, start-ups and stock write-offs. The capital cost of all this activity has also resulted in a £4.2 million turn in the interest charge.

The question all this dire information does not answer is how much of the fall of up to £7 million in profits last year was caused by the development activity, and how badly the company is suffering from increased competition with the discount food retailers. The discount war is going to make it hard for Nurdin & Peacock to bounce back from last year's reverses quickly, making the shares look expensive, even on their reduced price.

EDITED BY NEIL BENNETT



SG Warburg, London's biggest investment bank, advanced 8p to 745p as bid speculation intensified. The share price has jumped 57p in three days amid claims that the group could again be the target of a bid just weeks after breaking off merger talks with Morgan Stanley, the US investment bank.

Warburg could soon find itself on the receiving end of an approach from either one of the big European or American houses. Yesterday early attention focused on the German and the downturn in corporate activity resulted in the group issuing a profits warning towards the end of last year. Meanwhile, Mercury Asset Management, Warburg's separately quoted fund management arm, jumped 19p to 767p. There is talk of Warburg selling off 10 per cent of MAM, raising an estimated £364 million. MAM turned out to be the stumbling block on which the Morgan Stanley bid faltered.

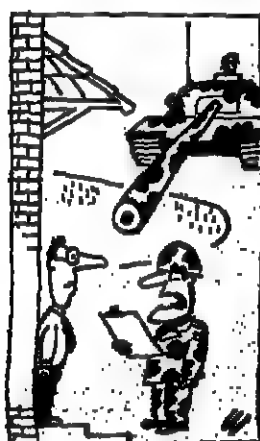
Unigate stood out with a rise of 9p to 359p as the world head of the group, headed by Ross Buckland, is near to disposing of its 32.6 per cent stake in Nutricia, the Dutch baby foods group, to Sandoz for an estimated £200 million. There has been talk in the market place for some time that Unigate has had a "for sale" sign up over the business and would use the proceeds to bid for the likes of Hazlewood Foods, 1p firmer at 109p, after going ex-dividend.

British Land firmed 3p to 363p after finally opening to the green light to bid for Stanhope Properties, the USM-quoted property developer, which owns a half-share in the City's Broadgate development. Proposals to rescue the heavily indebted Stanhope put forward by the Postel pension fund were rejected, leaving the way clear for British Land. It is now set to bid £125.5 million for Stanhope as the first step

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

New bride for Holdsworth

SIR Trevor Holdsworth, whose long City career has seen him as chairman at British Satellite Broadcasting, GKN, Allied Colloids and now at National Power, has a new admirer in his life who says he is a "thoroughly nice bloke". Jenny Watson, his PA for the past nine years, says (without prejudice) he is not the awe-inspiring director shareholders might think, and has accepted his proposal of marriage. Sir Trevor, widowed 14 months ago and who celebrates his 68th birthday on May 29, and Jenny take their vows in London on January 28. If there is an organiser at the ceremony, he had better watch his notes. Sir Trevor is not only a formidable accountant, but also an accomplished classical pianist. He has performed on behalf of various charities at, among other places, the Festival Hall, the Banqueting House, and various cathedrals. The honeymoon will be short and sweet. Sir Trevor is busy guiding into public hands the Government's remaining stake in National Power, and Jenny has to be back at work.



"Good morning - could I interest you in a Naafi pension policy?"

Best and worst

IAN STRACHAN, deputy to RTZ chief executive Robert Wilson, will certainly make an elegant addition to BTR when he joins as managing director on April 25, just 17 days after his 52nd birthday. On January 1 next year, he succeeds Alan Jackson as BTR's chief executive - a position of power for which he would have had to wait much longer had he stayed with RTZ. Colleagues say Ian is a marvellous communicator - just what BTR needs - and his suits, and perfect haircut, mark him out as one of City's best dressers. Here's hoping the ghost of Sir Owen Green, BTR's man at the helm until May, 1993, has been laid. In his day, he was often voted the City's worst dressed businessman.

Pincer move

WARBURG could not be won on the market. But will it be beaten in the street? Having repelled a stock market assault from Morgan Stanley, Warburg may be facing a threat to its foundations from a client, British Land. The property company already owns Warburg's HQ at 15 Finsbury Avenue and the addition of Broadgate will leave it surrounded by British Land. No one at BL will admit to ambitions to take over a merchant bank, but with former Warburg alumnus Nick Ritblat on board, his father, chairman John, is in a strong position to make a move.

Two-way bet

HAVING trouble motivating staff? Take a leaf from Robert Caban, managing director of Oram, the British subsidiary of Siemens. His bright idea is to inspire more effort is to offer two equal annual prizes. One for best individual performance. The other for the biggest mistake. Blessed too are they who take a risk!

COLIN CAMPBELL

Defence industry fights for a future without the US

Britain recruits comrades in arms

Procurement decisions will determine the alliances that reshape European defence strategy, says Ross Tieman

Britain's defence industry is fighting for a future. Caught in a no-man's land between American mega-corporations and Franco-German rapaciousness, it is ducking and diving in an effort to retain the critical mass and technological leadership that have made it the biggest in the Western world, outside the United States.

The tension is mounting. A series of defence industry consolidations in the United States, culminating in the merger of Lockheed and Martin Marietta, which was approved by federal authorities last week, has given the Americans formidable economies of scale.

At the same time, though less reported in Britain, France and Germany have formed a joint procurement executive designed to synchronise and combine much of their defence purchasing. Based on an agreement signed at Mulhouse, France, last August, this has given rise to a new French project of European integration: l'Europe de l'Armement.

The creation of a single, unified arms industry in Europe is becoming a cornerstone of industrial, defence and European policy for both France and Germany. France, which like Britain has an overlarge defence manufacturing sector rooted in Cold War insecurities and a colonial past, has multiple goals.

It wants to contain the threat of a German military resurgence; it wants to counter American economic might; and it wants a partner to share the cost of staying in the arms technology race.

Germany, aggressively rebuilding its aerospace and defence technology base, wants to make the equipment its forces will need for a growing international role without the cost or publicity of going it alone.

For cost is containing the ambition of politicians and generals alike, as never before. Every new generation of defence technology costs two to three times as much as its predecessor. Every major programme runs over budget.

The Europeans, who lack the economies of scale enjoyed by the Americans, started collaborating on the most expensive, high-tech projects: combat aircraft.

But programmes such as the Tornado bomber and Eurofighter 2000, involving Britain, Germany, Italy and Spain, have failed to solve the problem. Duplication of design and assembly in each partner country has inflated costs: differing

needs have compromised weapon performance.

Acknowledging these shortcomings, European governments began discreetly to encourage their national defence industry champions to combine forces. An extraordinary number of joint-venture deals have already been done.

What those agreements show is that despite the French political desire to reinforce links with Germany, the industrial axis is Franco-British. This partly reflects the limited scale and restricted out-of-area capability of German forces in the past, as well as constraints on German arms exports.

Aérospatiale of France and Daimler-Benz Aerospace, formerly Deutsche Aerospace, have combined their helicopter businesses to create Eurocopter. Now they are talking about merging their missile businesses, too.

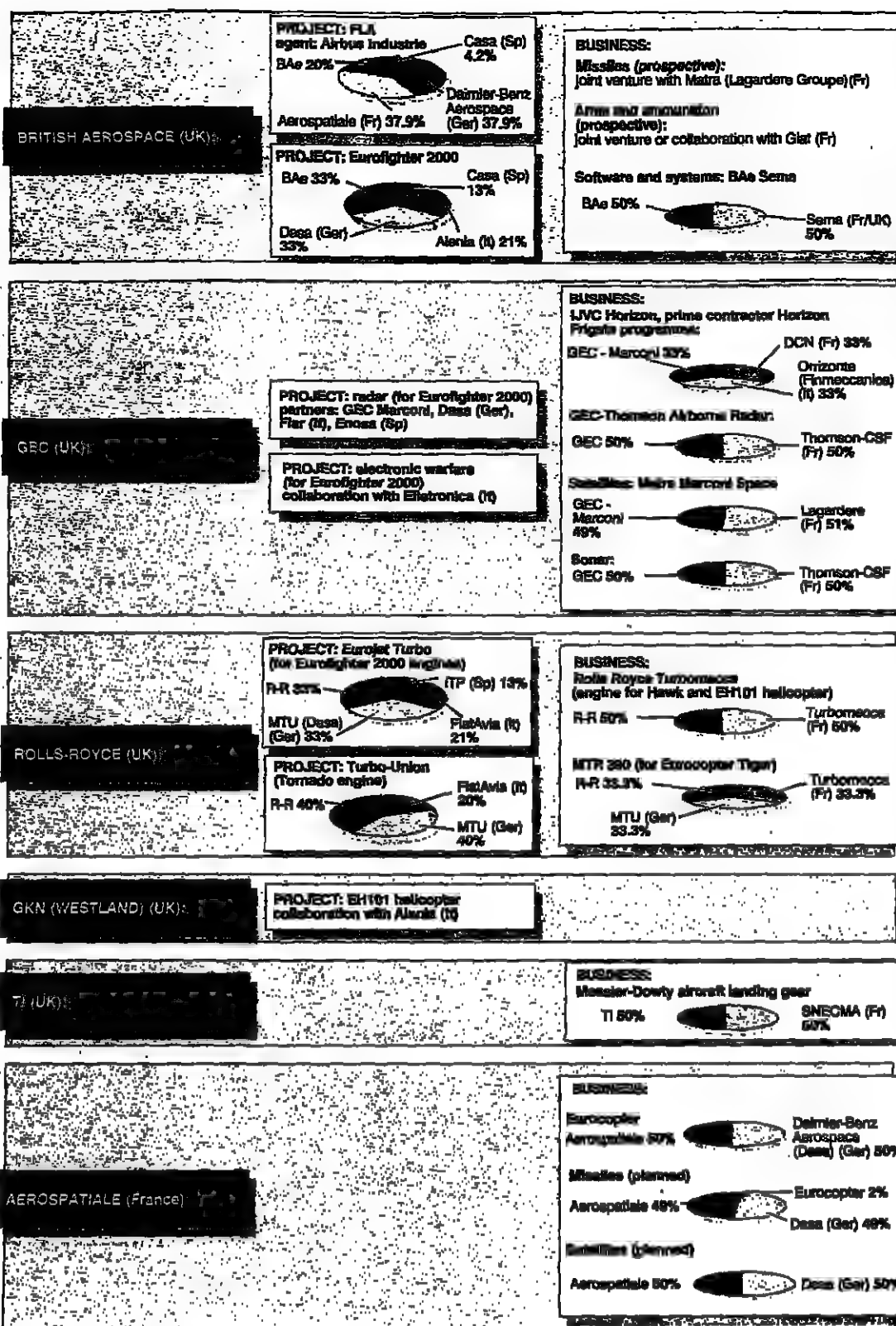
But Britain's GEC, piloted by that wily old strategist Lord Weinstock, is well ahead of the game. With a former French Defence Secretary, Aly Giraud, on his main board, Lord Weinstock has set up a string of businesses with former French rivals. Prominent among them are Matra Marconi Space in satellites; JVC Horizon, the prime contractor on a three-nation frigate programme; and GEC-Thomson Airborne Radar, which is intended to refit the Eurofighter and its French equivalent, Rafale, in 10 or 15 years' time.

British Aerospace is pursuing its naval ambitions through a 50/50 joint venture with the Anglo-French software group Sema. However, the consolidation process has become bogged down recently in battles over technology, ownership and national control.

The Mulhouse accord will break that logjam. For it brings into the open a responsibility that Britain's Ministry of Defence has long sought to evade: procurement decisions will determine the alliances that reshape Europe's defence industry. Without a coherent industrial strategy at the MoD, British companies will be at a profound disadvantage to their French peers and their German would-be rivals.

That is why two of the most powerful watchdog committees in the House of Commons, Trade and Industry and Defence, have decided to launch a joint inquiry into defence procurement.

Many people in the MoD remain in thrall to the United States and are deeply distrustful of European alliances. Yet there are signs that some



officials, and indeed some ministers, are at last waking up to the dangers. Last November Roger Freeman, the newly appointed Minister of State for Defence Procurement, called a meeting to discuss procurement with his continental counterparts.

As a result, Dr Malcolm McIntosh, Britain's civil service chief of defence procurement, is engaged in a series of discussions with Henri Conze, the French procurement chief and close associate of the French Prime Minister, Edouard Balladur, and Jörg Schönbohm, the permanent secretary at the German Procurement Ministry. For whatever other virtues it may have, the transatlantic alliance with the United States has been of limited value to Britain's defence equipment makers.

With consolidation in the US arms industry well advanced, there are fears that in any future transatlantic collaboration, British companies will be offered only a minor role. There is nowhere to turn but to Europe.

The arms industry has long time cycles: ten-year development programmes for a weapon system can

be followed by 25 in service. Today, British Aerospace, GEC, Rolls-Royce and the rest are living off the fruits of past ingenuity and hard-won export contracts.

To thrive, let alone survive, for the next 25 years, they have to be involved in the development of new high-tech weapons systems, which Britain alone is too poor to finance.

Britain, France and Germany now agree that in principle, the new generation of European defence programmes will employ designs and components from the best source, irrespective of nationality. In

the new defence industry era, winner takes all: the loser goes bust. Companies must merge, to reduce competition, or risk their survival on a single procurement decision.

French strategy, spelled out to Mr Freeman last week by M Conze, is aimed at "streamlining" European armaments producers to a core of just one, or preferably two, specialists in each main area of technology. The French favour 50/50 joint ventures rather than the outright takeovers which Mr Freeman has been keen to encourage. They are willing to accept the price of job losses. But — unspoken subtext — they want to maintain control.

In practice, this means promoting deals with British companies, as well as German. Tactics are Machiavellian. For more than 18 months, BAe has been trying to negotiate a merger of its missile business with that of Matra. But earlier this month, the French Government awarded Matra the contract to develop its APTGD cruise missile. Now, with a strong order book, Matra's demands for majority control are reinforced.

It is now clear that both France and Britain force a consolidation of the European armaments industry around two key projects.

The Horizon frigate programme, under way between Britain, France and Italy, will be the first in which countries will not seek to duplicate each part of the vessel within their own borders. Rather, design work will be concentrated at the contractor which is best equipped to achieve it, and common components will be bought from the lowest-cost source.

The other key programme is the pan-European transport aircraft, known as FLA, which is to be designed and built by Airbus Industrie, the European jetliner consortium. The Europeans need British participation, and a British order for 50 or so planes, to relieve pressure on their overstretched defence budgets and make the aircraft's development viable.

After intense lobbying by France and Germany, Britain has rejoined studies for the aircraft. Dr McIntosh, who had been deeply sceptical about the Europeans' ability to develop the plane on time and to cost, was apparently deeply impressed by what he saw during a visit to the Airbus headquarters in Toulouse last autumn.

This spring, Britain must decide whether to commit itself to the development of the plane itself. If Britain is to have a strong defence industry in the future, it must learn to play the Europeans, and indeed the Americans, at their own game. Taking the initiative on procurement needs is a start. For unless the MoD uses its buying power effectively to ensure that British companies get a strong position in the next generation of collaborative programmes, be they European or American, it will have no choice but to buy abroad in the future. The select committee report will make gripping reading.

Shops queue up to celebrate the gift of Christmas late

Susan Gilchrist and Sarah Bagnall find festive cheer among retailers

Now that the Christmas term is over, it is time to assess the retailing class of 1994. Glancing through the end-of-term reports, it is clear that shareholders may be asking awkward questions of some pupils, while others will be congratulated with gold stars. But overall the results were not as bad as feared.

The doom merchants had been on the rampage before Christmas. The unpalatable combination of two budgets, two hikes in interest rates and unseasonably warm weather in the autumn hardly laid the foundations for a truly festive season. But the pessimists were largely proved wrong, the exceptions paying the price with plunging share prices and reduced profit forecasts. Christmas came late, but for most it did come.

Bottom of the class was Kingfisher, once considered the analysts' pet. The group was dragged down by a dire performance from Comet, which suffered a near 11 per cent slump in like-for-like

sales, while Woolworths could only manage a 2 per cent increase on last year's lacklustre Christmas.

Kingfisher blamed the tough competitive environment for Comet's problems, but the results of Dixons, its main rival, proved that consumers were willing to go out and buy big-ticket items such as electronic goods. Dixons delivered a 5 per cent increase in like-for-like sales.

This leaves Kingfisher starting the new term in some disarray. It may be forced to make a provision to sort out Comet and Woolworths, which analysts say could be as high as £100 million. Even B&Q, the jewel in its crown, is now under threat from J Sainsbury's designs on Tens, the number two DIY player.

At the other end of the

spectrum were glittering performances from Next and Tesco, who beat even the most optimistic expectations. The Next handwagon just keeps rolling on despite fears that its inexorable sales growth must, if not grind to a halt, at least slow down. The Next retail chain increased sales 17 per cent, while sales from the Directory rose 35 per cent. Tesco had its best Christmas, lifting underlying sales 7 per cent in December, a figure unheard of in the food retailing industry since the halcyon days of the 1980s.

Argos, Storehouse, Lloyds Chemists, Body Shop and Goldsmiths also pleased the City. The crucial question is whether all this sales growth was achieved at the expense of

margins, an unfortunate feature of last year's Christmas trading period. The answer appears to be no. Most retailers managed to hold, if not, increase margins despite some aggressive pricing.

However, it was not universal. Sainsbury suffered a slight erosion in margins in the second half, a fact that took the shine off an otherwise commendable 6 per cent rise in Christmas sales.

House of Fraser was another casualty. Margins were hit by deep discounting on unsold winter clothing after the unusually mild autumn. The group, which only came to the market last April, was forced to issue its first profits warning.

Other clothing retailers may have also found it difficult to make up the ground lost in the autumn. A clearer picture will emerge when Marks and Spencer and Burton issue their trading statements next week. They will have to deliver impressive results to beat the best of the class of Christmas 1994.



STATE RAIL Equipment and Spare Parts — Paxman Engines

SUPPLY SPECIFICATION NO. 0800144

Tenders closing at 10.00am on Wednesday February 1, 1995 are invited for the supply of genuine spare parts, in accordance with the above specification for Paxman diesel engines which power XPT inter and intra state long distance passenger trains. The supply specification will cover an initial supply period of three years, with an option to extend that period by a further two years.

Copies of the specification (AUD\$100.00 per set non-refundable — payment is by cheque only, in Australian Dollars, to be made payable to State Rail Authority) are obtainable from Room 1007, 10th floor, Transport House, 11-31 York Street, Sydney 2000, Australia between 8.30am and 4.00pm Monday to Friday.

Further enquiries regarding obtaining a copy of the specification, telephone +61 2 224 4024, Fax +61 2 224 4753.

All commercial and/or technical enquiries should be directed to Mr Mal Ackerman, telephone +61 2 224 2038, Fax. +61 2 224 2857.

GAI : 449824

Don't read this. You'll just lose interest.

(Make more of your surplus cash with a Barclays Business Deposit. From a Business Premium Account to a Treasury Deposit the larger the sum the higher the rate of interest, even if it's only for 24 hours. So phone your local branch now.)



BARCLAYS

BUSINESS DEPOSITS

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

[illegible]

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place ten business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

CHEMICALS		1991		1990		1989		1988		1987		1986		1985		1984		1983		1982		1981		1980		1979		1978		1977		1976		1975		1974		1973		1972		1971		1970		1969		1968		1967		1966		1965		1964		1963		1962		1961		1960		1959		1958		1957		1956		1955		1954		1953		1952		1951		1950		1949		1948		1947		1946		1945		1944		1943		1942		1941		1940		1939		1938		1937		1936		1935		1934		1933		1932		1931		1930		1929		1928		1927		1926		1925		1924		1923		1922		1921		1920		1919		1918		1917		1916		1915		1914		1913		1912		1911		1910		1909		1908		1907		1906		1905		1904		1903		1902		1901		1900		1899		1898		1897		1896		1895		1894		1893		1892		1891		1890		1889		1888		1887		1886		1885		1884		1883		1882		1881		1880		1879		1878		1877		1876		1875		1874		1873		1872		1871		1870		1869		1868		1867		1866		1865		1864		1863		1862		1861		1860		1859		1858		1857		1856		1855		1854		1853		1852		1851		1850		1849		1848		1847		1846		1845		1844		1843		1842		1841		1840		1839		1838		1837		1836		1835		1834		1833		1832		1831		1830		1829		1828		1827		1826		1825		1824		1823		1822		1821		1820		1819		1818		1817		1816		1815		1814		1813		1812		1811		1810		1809		1808		1807		1806		1805		1804		1803		1802		1801		1800		1799		1798		1797		1796		1795		1794		1793		1792		1791		1790		1789		1788		1787		1786		1785		1784		1783		1782		1781		1780		1779		1778		1777		1776		1775		1774		1773		1772		1771		1770		1769		1768		1767		1766		1765		1764		1763		1762		1761		1760		1759		1758		1757		1756		1755		1754		1753		1752		1751		1750		1749		1748		1747		1746		1745		1744		1743		1742		1741		1740		1739		1738		1737		1736		1735		1734		1733		1732		1731		1730		1729		1728		1727		1726		1725		1724		1723		1722		1721		1720		1719		1718		1717		1716		1715		1714		1713		1712		1711		1710		1709		1708		1707		1706		1705		1704		1703		1702		1701		1700		1699		1698		1697		1696		1695		1694		1693		1692		1691		1690		1689		1688		1687		1686		1685		1684		1683		1682		1681		1680		1679	
1991	1274	Alcohol (Ethanol)	119	4	25	185	155	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176	176																																																																																																																																																																																																																																										

[illegible]

	8.00	8.50	9.00	9.50	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	8.25	8.75	9.25	9.75	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	8.50	9.00	9.50	10.00	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	8.75	9.25	9.75	10.25	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	9.00	9.50	10.00	10.50	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	9.25	9.75	10.25	10.75	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	9.50	10.00	10.50	11.00	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	9.75	10.25	10.75	11.25	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	10.00	10.50	11.00	11.50	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	10.25	10.75	11.25	11.75	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	10.50	11.00	11.50	12.00	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	10.75	11.25	11.75	12.25	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	11.00	11.50	12.00	12.50	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	11.25	11.75	12.25	12.75	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	11.50	12.00	12.50	13.00	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	11.75	12.25	12.75	13.25	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	12.00	12.50	13.00	13.50	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	12.25	12.75	13.25	13.75	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	12.50	13.00	13.50	14.00	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	12.75	13.25	13.75	14.25	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	13.00	13.50	14.00	14.50	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	13.25	13.75	14.25	14.75	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	13.50	14.00	14.50	15.00	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	13.75	14.25	14.75	15.25	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	14.00	14.50	15.00	15.50	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	14.25	14.75	15.25	15.75	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	14.50	15.00	15.50	16.00	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	14.75	15.25	15.75	16.25	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	15.00	15.50	16.00	16.50	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	15.25	15.75	16.25	16.75	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	15.50	16.00	16.50	17.00	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	15.75	16.25	16.75	17.25	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	16.00	16.50	17.00	17.50	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	16.25	16.75	17.25	17.75	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	16.50	17.00	17.50	18.00	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	16.75	17.25	17.75	18.25	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	17.00	17.50	18.00	18.50	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	17.25	17.75	18.25	18.75	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	17.50	18.00	18.50	19.00	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	17.75	18.25	18.75	19.25	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	18.00	18.50	19.00	19.50	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	18.25	18.75	19.25	19.75	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	18.50	19.00	19.50	20.00	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	18.75	19.25	19.75	20.25	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	19.00	19.50	20.00	20.50	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	19.25	19.75	20.25	20.75	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	19.50	20.00	20.50	21.00	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	19.75	20.25	20.75	21.25	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	20.00	20.50	21.00	21.50	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	20.25	20.75	21.25	21.75	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	20.50	21.00	21.50	22.00	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	20.75	21.25	21.75	22.25	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	21.00	21.50	22.00	22.50	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	21.25	21.75	22.25	22.75	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	21.50	22.00	22.50	23.00	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	21.75	22.25	22.75	23.25	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	22.00	22.50	23.00	23.50	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	22.25	22.75	23.25	23.75	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	22.50	23.00	23.50	24.00	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	22.75	23.25	23.75	24.25	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	23.00	23.50	24.00	24.50	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	23.25	23.75	24.25	24.75	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	23.50	24.00	24.50	25.00	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	23.75	24.25	24.75	25.25	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	24.00	24.50	25.00	25.50	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	24.25	24.75	25.25	25.75	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	24.50	25.00	25.50	26.00	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	24.75	25.25	25.75	26.25	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	25.00	25.50	26.00	26.50	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	25.25	25.75	26.25	26.75	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	25.50	26.00	26.50	27.00	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	25.75	26.25	26.75	27.25	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	26.00	26.50	27.00	27.50	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	26.25	26.75	27.25	27.75	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	26.50	27.00	27.50	28.00	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	26.75	27.25	27.75	28.25	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	27.00	27.50	28.00	28.50	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	27.25	27.75	28.25	28.75	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	27.50	28.00	28.50	29.00	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	27.75	28.25	28.75	29.25	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	28.00	28.50	29.00	29.50	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	28.25	28.75	29.25	29.75	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	28.50	29.00	29.50	30.00	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	28.75	29.25	29.75	30.25	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	29.00	29.50	30.00	30.50	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	29.25	29.75	30.25	30.75	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	29.50	30.00	30.50	31.00	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	29.75	30.25	30.75	31.25	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	30.00	30.50	31.00	31.50	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	30.25	30.75	31.25	31.75	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	30.50	31.00	31.50	32.00	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	30.75	31.25	31.75	32.25	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	31.00	31.50	32.00	32.50	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	31.25	31.75	32.25	32.75	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	31.50	32.00	32.50	33.00	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	31.75	32.25	32.75	33.25	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	32.00	32.50	33.00	33.50	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	32.25	32.75	33.25	33.75	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	32.50	33.00	33.50	34.00	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	32.75	33.25	33.75	34.25	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	33.00	33.50	34.00	34.50	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	33.25	33.75	34.25	34.75	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	33.50	34.00	34.50	35.00	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	33.75	34.25	34.75	35.25	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	34.00	34.50	35.00	35.50	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	34.25	34.75	35.25	35.75	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	34.50	35.00	35.50	36.00	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	34.75	35.25	35.75	36.25	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	35.00	35.50	36.00	36.50	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	35.25	35.75	36.25	36.75	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	35.50	36.00	36.50	37.00	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	35.75	36.25	36.75	37.25	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	36.00	36.50	37.00	37.50	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	36.25	36.75	37.25	37.75	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	36.50	37.00	37.50	38.00	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	36.75	37.25	37.75	38.25	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	37.00	37.50	38.00	38.50	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	37.25	37.75	38.25	38.75	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	37.50	38.00	38.50	39.00	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	37.75	38.25	38.75	39.25	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	38.00	38.50	39.00	39.50	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	38.25	38.75	39.25	39.75	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	38.50	39.00	39.50	40.00	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	38.75	39.25	39.75	40.25	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	39.00	39.50	40.00	40.50	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	39.25	39.75	40.25	40.75	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	39.50	40.00	40.50	41.00	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	39.75	40.25	40.75	41.25	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	40.00	40.50	41.00	41.50	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	40.25	40.75	41.25	41.75	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	40.50	41.00	41.50	42.00	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	40.75	41.25	41.75	42.25	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	41.00	41.50	42.00	42.50	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	41.25	41.75	42.25	42.75	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	41.50	42.00	42.50	43.00	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	41.75	42.25	42.75	43.25	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	42.00	42.50	43.00	43.50	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	42.25	42.75	43.25	43.75	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	42.50	43.00	43.50	44.00	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
+	42.75	43.25	43.						

[illegible]

	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974	1973	1972	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928	1927	1926	1925	1924	1923	1922	1921	1920	1919	1918	1917	1916	1915	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902	1901	1900	1899	1898	1897	1896	1895	1894	1893	1892	1891	1890	1889	1888	1887	1886	1885	1884	1883	1882	1881	1880	1879	1878	1877	1876	1875	1874	1873	1872	1871	1870	1869	1868	1867	1866	1865	1864	1863	1862	1861	1860	1859	1858	1857	1856	1855	1854	1853	1852	1851	1850	1849	1848	1847	1846	1845	1844	1843	1842	1841	1840	1839	1838	1837	1836	1835	1834	1833	1832	1831	1830	1829	1828	1827	1826	1825	1824	1823	1822	1821	1820	1819	1818	1817	1816	1815	1814	1813	1812	1811	1810	1809	1808	1807	1806	1805	1804	1803	1802	1801	1800	1799	1798	1797	1796	1795	1794	1793	1792	1791	1790	1789	1788	1787	1786	1785	1784	1783	1782	1781	1780	1779	1778	1777	1776	1775	1774	1773	1772	1771	1770	1769	1768	1767	1766	1765	1764	1763	1762	1761	1760	1759	1758	1757	1756	1755	1754	1753	1752	1751	1750	1749	1748	1747	1746	1745	1744	1743	1742	1741	1740	1739	1738	1737	1736	1735	1734	1733	1732	1731	1730	1729	1728	1727	1726	1725	1724	1723	1722	1721	1720	1719	1718	1717	1716	1715	1714	1713	1712	1711	1710	1709	1708	1707	1706	1705	1704	1703	1702	1701	1700	1699	1698	1697	1696	1695	1694	1693	1692	1691	1690	1689	1688	1687	1686	1685	1684	1683	1682	1681	1680	1679	1678	1677	1676	1675	1674	1673	1672	1671	1670	1669	1668	1667	1666	1665	1664	1663	1662	1661	1660	1659	1658	1657	1656	1655	1654	1653	1652	1651	1650	1649	1648	1647	1646	1645	1644	1643	1642	1641	1640	1639	1638	1637	1636	1635	1634	1633	1632	1631	1630	1629	1628	1627	1626	1625	1624	1623	1622	1621	1620	1619	1618	1617	1616	1615	1614	1613	1612	1611	1610	1609	1608	1607	1606	1605	1604	1603	1602	1601	1600	1599	1598	1597	1596	1595	1594	1593	1592	1591	1590	1589	1588	1587	1586	1585	1584	1583	1582	1581	1580	1579	1578	1577	1576	1575	1574	1573	1572	1571	1570	1569	1568	1567	1566	1565	1564	1563	1562	1561	1560	1559	1558	1557	1556	1555	1554	1553	1552	1551	1550	1549	1548	1547	1546	1545	1544	1543	1542	1541	1540	1539	1538	1537	1536	1535	1
--	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	---

191	118	119	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170	171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180	181	182	183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190	191	192	193	194	195	196	197	198	199	200	201	202	203	204	205	206	207	208	209	210	211	212	213	214	215	216	217	218	219	220	221	222	223	224	225	226	227	228	229	230	231	232	233	234	235	236	237	238	239	240	241	242	243	244	245	246	247	248	249	250	251	252	253	254	255	256	257	258	259	260	261	262	263	264	265	266	267	268	269	270	271	272	273	274	275	276	277	278	279	280	281	282	283	284	285	286	287	288	289	290	291	292	293	294	295	296	297	298	299	300	301	302	303	304	305	306	307	308	309	310	311	312	313	314	315	316	317	318	319	320	321	322	323	324	325	326	327	328	329	330	331	332	333	334	335	336	337	338	339	340	341	342	343	344	345	346	347	348	349	350	351	352	353	354	355	356	357	358	359	360	361	362	363	364	365	366	367	368	369	370	371	372	373	374	375	376	377	378	379	380	381	382	383	384	385	386	387	388	389	390	391	392	393	394	395	396	397	398	399	400	401	402	403	404	405	406	407	408	409	410	411	412	413	414	415	416	417	418	419	420	421	422	423	424	425	426	427	428	429	430	431	432	433	434	435	436	437	438	439	440	441	442	443	444	445	446	447	448	449	450	451	452	453	454	455	456	457	458	459	460	461	462	463	464	465	466	467	468	469	470	471	472	473	474	475	476	477	478	479	480	481	482	483	484	485	486	487	488	489	490	491	492	493	494	495	496	497	498	499	500	501	502	503	504	505	506	507	508	509	510	511	512	513	514	515	516	517	518	519	520	521	522	523	524	525	526	527	528	529	530	531	532	533	534	535	536	537	538	539	540	541	542	543	544	545	546	547	548	549	550	551	552	553	554	555	556	557	558	559	560	561	562	563	564	565	566	567	568	569	570	571	572	573	574	575	576	577	578	579	580	581	582	583	584	585	586	587	588	589	590	591	592	593	594	595	596	597	598	599	600	601	602	603	604	605	606	607	608	609	610	611	612	613	614	615	616	617	618	619	620	621	622	623	624	625	626	627	628	629	630	631	632	633	634	635	636	637	638	639	640	641	642	643	644	645	646	647	648	649	650	651	652	653	654	655	656	657	658	659	660	661	662	663	664	665	666	667	668	669	670	671	672	673	674	675	676	677	678	679	680	681	682	683	684	685	686	687	688	689	690	691	692	693	694	695	696	697	698	699	700	701	702	703	704	705	706	707	708	709	710	711	712	713	714	715	716	717	718	719	720	721	722	723	724	725	726	727	728	729	730	731	732	733	734	735	736	737	738	739	740	741	742	743	744	745	746	747	748	749	750	751	752	753	754	755	756	757	758	759	760	761	762	763	764	765	766	767	768	769	770	771	772	773	774	775	776	777	778	779	780	781	782	783	784	785	786	787	788	789	790	791	792	793	794	795	796	797	798	799	800	801	802	803	804	805	806	807	808	809	810	811	812	813	814	815	816	817	818	819	820	821	822	823	824	825	826	827	828	829	830	831	832	833	834	835	836	837	838	839	840	841	842	843	844	845	846	847	848	849	850	851	852	853	854	855	856	857	858	859	860	861	862	863	864	865	866	867	868	869	870	871	872	873	874	875	876	877	878	879	880	881	882	883	884	885	886	887	888	889	890	891	892	893	894	895	896	897	898	899	900	901	902	903	904	905	906	907	908	909	910	911	912	913	914	915	916	917	918	919	920	921	922	923	924	925	926	927	928	929	930	931	932	933	934	935	936	937	938	939	940	941	942	943	944	945	946	947	948	949	950	951	952	953	954	955	956	957	958	959	960	961	962	963	964	965	966	967	968	969	970	971	972	973	974	975	976	977	978	979	980	981	982	983	984	985	986	987	988	989	990	991	992	993	994	995	996	997	998	999	1000
191	118	119	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170	171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180	181	182	183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190	191	192	193	194	195	196	197	198	199	200	201	202	203	204	205	206	207	208	209	210	211	212	213	214	215	216	217	218	219	220	221	222	223	224	225	226	227	228	229	230	231	232	233	234	235	236	237	238	239	240	241	242	243	244	245	246	247	248	249	250	251	252	253	254	255	256	257	258	259	260	261	262	263	264	265	266	267	268	269	270	271	272	273	274	275	276	277	278	279	280	281	282	283	284	285	286	287	288	289	290	291	292	293	294	295	296	297	298	299	300	301	302	303	304	305	306	307	308	309	310	311	312	313	314	315	316	317	318	319	320	321	322	323	324	325	326	327	328	329	330	331	332	333	334	335	336	337	338	339	340	341	342	343	344	345	346	347	348	349	350	351	352	353	354	355	356	357	358	359	360	361	362	363	364	365	366	367	368	369	370	371	372	373	374	375	376	377	378	379	380	381	382	383	384	385	386	387	388	389	390	391	392	393	394	395	396	397	398	399	400	401	402	403	404	405	406	407	408	409	410	411	412	413	414	415	416	417	418	419	420	421	422	423	424	425	426	427	428	429	430	431	432	433	434	435	436	437	438	439	440	441	442	443	444	445	446	447	448	449	450	451	452	453	454	455	456	457	458	459	460	461	462	463	464	465	466	467	468	469	470	471	472	473	474	475	476	477	478	479	480	481	482	483	484	485	486	487	488	489	490	491	492	493	494	495	496	497	498	499	500	501	502	503	504	505	506	507	508	509	510	511	512	513	514	515	516	517	518	519	520	521	522	523	524	525	526	527	528	529	530	531	532	533	534	535	536	537	538	539	540	541	542	543	544	545	546	547	548	549	550	551	552	553	554	555	556	557	558	559	560	561	562	563	564	565	566	567	568	569	570	571	572	573	574	575	576	577	578	579	580	581	582	583	584	585	586	587	588	589	590	591	592	593	594	595	596	597	598	599	600	601	602	603	604	605	606	607	608	609	610	611	612	613	614	615	616	617	618	619	620	621	622	623	624	625	626	627	628	629	630	631	632	633	634	635	636	637	638	639	640	641	642	643	644	645	646	647	648	649	650	651	652	653	654	655	656	657	658	659	660	661	662	663	664	665	666	667	668	669	670	671	672	673	674	675	676	677	678	679	680	681	682	683	684	685	686	687	688	689	690	691	692	693	694	695	696	697	698	699	700	701	702	703	704	705	706	707	708	709	710	711	712	713	714	715	716	717	718	719	720	721	722	723	724	725	726	727	728	729	730	731	732	733	734	735	736	737	738	739	740	741	742	743	744	745	746	747	748	749	750	751	752	753	754	755	756	757	758	759	760	761	762	763	764	765	766	767	768	769	770	771	772	773	774	775	776	777	778	779																																																																																																																																																																																																																													

BRITISH FUNDS										
1994/95		Stock	Type	£	p.p.	Mkt. %	Div. yield	Ratios		Status
1994/95	Low							High	Long	
SHORTS (under 5 years)										
85%	87%	Barb UK 1994/95	95%	-	3.63	6.29	100%	87%	100%	Open
90%	91%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.67	6.31	100%	89%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.68	6.30	100%	90%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.69	6.31	100%	91%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.70	6.32	100%	92%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.71	6.33	100%	93%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.72	6.34	100%	94%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.73	6.35	100%	95%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.74	6.36	100%	96%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.75	6.37	100%	97%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.76	6.38	100%	98%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.77	6.39	100%	99%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.78	6.40	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.79	6.41	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.80	6.42	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.81	6.43	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.82	6.44	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.83	6.45	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.84	6.46	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.85	6.47	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.86	6.48	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.87	6.49	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.88	6.50	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.89	6.51	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.90	6.52	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.91	6.53	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.92	6.54	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.93	6.55	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.94	6.56	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.95	6.57	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.96	6.58	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.97	6.59	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.98	6.60	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.99	6.61	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	4.00	6.62	100%	100%	100%	Open
LONGS (over 15 years)										
85%	87%	Barb UK 1994/95	95%	-	3.63	6.29	100%	87%	100%	Open
90%	91%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.67	6.31	100%	89%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.68	6.30	100%	90%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.69	6.31	100%	91%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.70	6.32	100%	92%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.71	6.33	100%	93%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.72	6.34	100%	94%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.73	6.35	100%	95%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.74	6.36	100%	96%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.75	6.37	100%	97%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.76	6.38	100%	98%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.77	6.39	100%	99%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.78	6.40	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.79	6.41	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.80	6.42	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.81	6.43	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.82	6.44	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.83	6.45	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.84	6.46	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.85	6.47	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.86	6.48	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.87	6.49	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.88	6.50	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.89	6.51	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.90	6.52	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.91	6.53	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.92	6.54	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.93	6.55	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.94	6.56	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.95	6.57	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.96	6.58	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.97	6.59	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.98	6.60	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.99	6.61	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	4.00	6.62	100%	100%	100%	Open
UNLIMITED										
85%	87%	Barb UK 1994/95	95%	-	3.63	6.29	100%	87%	100%	Open
90%	91%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.67	6.31	100%	89%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.68	6.30	100%	90%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.69	6.31	100%	91%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.70	6.32	100%	92%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.71	6.33	100%	93%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.72	6.34	100%	94%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.73	6.35	100%	95%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.74	6.36	100%	96%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.75	6.37	100%	97%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.76	6.38	100%	98%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.77	6.39	100%	99%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.78	6.40	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.79	6.41	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.80	6.42	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.81	6.43	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.82	6.44	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.83	6.45	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.84	6.46	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.85	6.47	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.86	6.48	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.87	6.49	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.88	6.50	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.89	6.51	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.90	6.52	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.91	6.53	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.92	6.54	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.93	6.55	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.94	6.56	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.95	6.57	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.96	6.58	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.97	6.59	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.98	6.60	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.99	6.61	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	4.00	6.62	100%	100%	100%	Open
MID-INDEXED										
85%	87%	Barb UK 1994/95	95%	-	3.63	6.29	100%	87%	100%	Open
90%	91%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.67	6.31	100%	89%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.68	6.30	100%	90%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.69	6.31	100%	91%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.70	6.32	100%	92%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.71	6.33	100%	93%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.72	6.34	100%	94%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.73	6.35	100%	95%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.74	6.36	100%	96%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.75	6.37	100%	97%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.76	6.38	100%	98%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.77	6.39	100%	99%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.78	6.40	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.79	6.41	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.80	6.42	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.81	6.43	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.82	6.44	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.83	6.45	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.84	6.46	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.85	6.47	100%	100%	100%	Open
100%	100%	Barb UK 1994/95	100%	-	3.86	6.48	100%	100%	100%	Open</

Our report
the tea

INFOTECH

Built according to our instructions

Computer companies are selling off their production facilities to concentrate on product development and marketing, David Hewson reports

Most people who buy personal computers plump for one of the big, familiar names such as IBM, Apple, Compaq and Dell — companies which, in the words of marketing people, carry strong "brand equity" for good technology and quality products at the right price.

What few customers realise is that a large part of their PC, perhaps the entire machine, may never have been near a factory bearing the name stamped on its box. Many companies in the electronics business — from PC and work station makers to cellphone and hi-fi firms — are coming to the conclusion that their talents may lie in designing products, not making them.

IBM and Apple are already experimenting with third-party manufacturers in a big way. Some analysts believe that the shift of PCs towards mass market items makes it inevitable that the computer giants of today will, by the turn of the century, have shed the expensive business of running their own production facilities. They will have learnt to concentrate instead on the more critical factors of product development and marketing.

This is a fundamental shift for the trade. In the past, many may

have bought in lines of common products, such as monitors, from other smaller companies, put their own name on the front, then added nothing to the item except an extra 15 per cent on the price.

They become dealers in the intellectual property of their own hardware and software designs, then pass on the completed blueprints to a third-party manufacturer who can turn out the end product in volume at short notice.

In theory, everyone wins, but one group is winning more than most at the moment — the third-party companies. One of the largest, though barely known outside the industry, is Solecron, founded in Silicon Valley in 1977.

After years of low-level manufacturing of component boards, Solecron is now on a dizzying growth curve. Its latest financial results showed net quarterly sales of £338 million, a 57 per cent increase on the same period last year. Much of the growth has come through the tactic of approaching big-name manufacturers and buying their surplus volume.

Over the past 18 months, Solecron has bought a printed circuit assembly factory from Hewlett-Packard, two IBM plants, one in France and one in North Carolina, and a circuit assembly



David Pratt, managing director of Solecron, says the workforce has risen from 700 to more than 1,000 since the firm was taken over

site in Dunfermline from Philips. All are now busier than they were under their previous owners.

At Dunfermline, David Pratt, the local managing director, has seen the workforce rise from 700 under Philips to more than 1,000 with Solecron. The factory makes everything from parts for upmarket hi-fi systems and cellphones to complete PCs, and lists among its blue-chip customers Motorola, IBM, AT&T

and the hi-fi firm Bang & Olufsen. In California, Solecron is also a manufacturer for Apple, Hewlett-Packard and Sun Microsystems.

Customers rarely hear of third-party manufacturing deals. The brands fear that they will not like the idea that their big-name PC was made by a company unknown to the general public. Mr Pratt is happy to quote his customer list at Dunfermline, but prefers to keep

the details of what he makes for his clients secret.

By moving to outside manufacturing, technology companies can save money, streamline their engineering processes and bring products to market more quickly. They can also take advantage of some remarkable deals. Because a company like Solecron buys components for a wide range of customers at large volumes, it can often find

them at a lower price than some of its big name clients.

Solecron pitches its bids on an open basis — revealing the margin it will make on the deal — and then owns the parts for the products until they are assembled and passed on to the buyer.

This relieves electronics companies of one of their big financial burdens, the cost of building up huge volumes of stock parts wait-

ing to be turned into products.

The quality of products coming out of the larger third-party companies is, in fact, likely to be as good as anything made in a rival dedicated manufacturing plant.

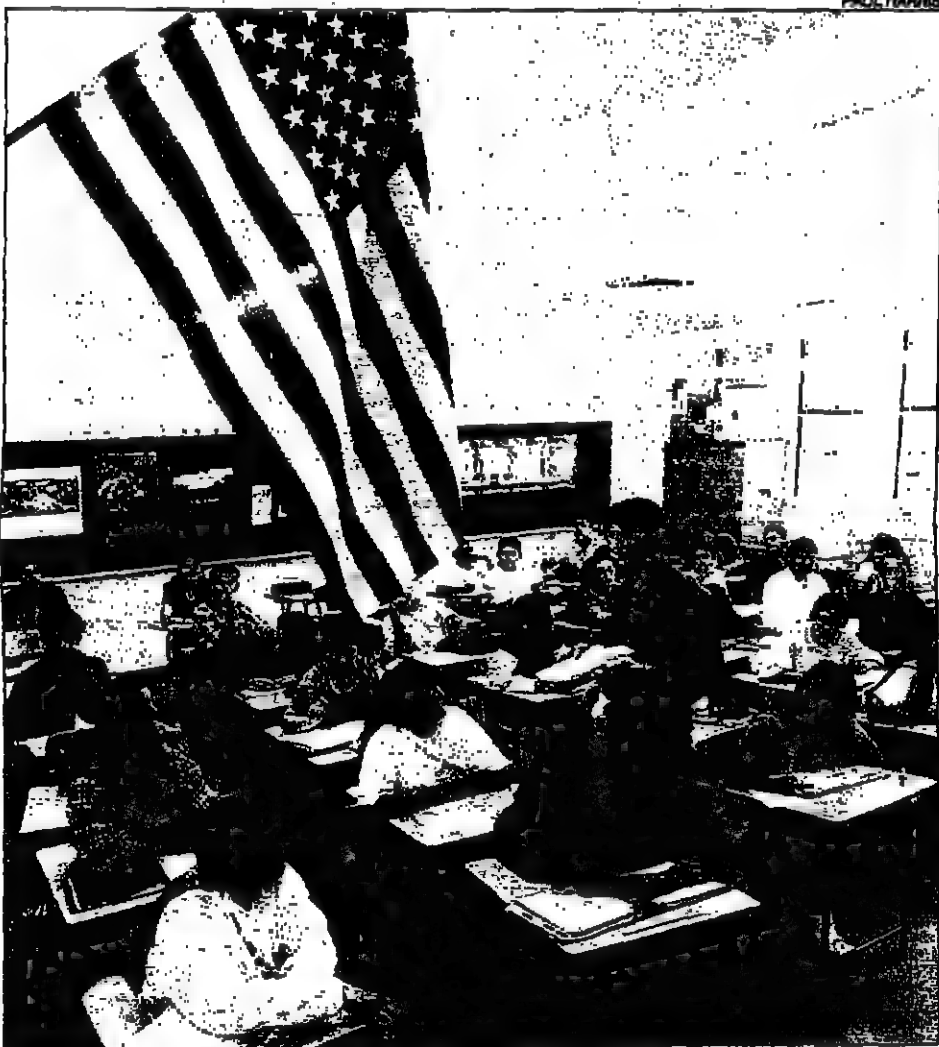
Quality problems not only dismay the companies commissioning the goods but can also eat into the slender margins, which is why Solecron and its larger rivals invest heavily in quality assurance schemes which aim to out-perform any found in a dedicated manufacturing plant.

When the relationship works, it can turn one-off projects into long-term sources of business. Solecron has been working for Apple, IBM, Hewlett-Packard and Sun for a combined total of 41 years and last year generated 73 per cent of its revenue from customers of five years' standing or more.

The American manufacturing industry is now sold on the idea of outsourcing in order to concentrate on the core elements of a business. Contract manufacturing is the technology industry's simplest way to follow the outsourcing trend.

A few companies have taken the reverse direction. Cirrus Logic — the chip maker that helped to pioneer the idea of designing microprocessors but getting someone else to make them — recently entered a deal with IBM to co-own its first chip-making plant. But it is outnumbered by the companies stampeding to put manufacturing outside their businesses.

Customers may, in the end, never notice the difference, except in the low price they pay and the speed with which their chosen model becomes obsolete.



Kansas teachers leave messages about students' grades on personal voice mail boxes

Lost your report? Just ring the teacher

Most children learn to live with the telephone, but how would they feel if it became an instrument to record their performance at school — like the details of this week's homework, yesterday's test marks or a temporary dip in application which might otherwise remain invisible to busy parents?

In the case of 21 schools in the American state of Kansas, children are finding out what it is like to live with their teacher permanently at the end of a telephone line.

All 950 teachers in the Blue Valley school district of Jackson County now have access to a computerised voice mail system, a telephone message facility which allows them to update parents on their child's progress and record general information on everything from the week's homework to projects, exam dates and other class activities.

By using the correct entry code, a parent can access the system from any phone at any time that is convenient. Once connected, parents are able to pick up messages about their child's performance and more general class and school information, all via the child's personal voice mail box, one of 1,000 installed on the system.

The system is controlled by a central computer capable of supporting up to 15,000 individual mail boxes. Frequent users of the system include families with working parents who may find it difficult either

US schools are using voice mail to give parents up-to-date reports

to visit the school or talk to a teacher on the phone during school hours. With voice mail they are able to take part in a confidential two-way communication about their child's progress, says Mike West, a sales manager with Octel Communications, the voice mail company which installed the system.

"We're not saying that voice mail is better than talking directly to someone; it is just more convenient in certain circumstances," Marsha Chappelow, assistant superintendent of the school district in Blue Valley, says.

Features include multiple messaging, allowing the teacher to make one home-work announcement for all class mail boxes or a parent representative to send out simultaneous details of a meeting or social event.

It is a far cry from the school note and amnesia system of old, Linda Turner, a parent in the district, says. "Trying to find 15 different pieces of paper in the children's backpacks was never any fun. Now I get all the messages and I know exactly what is important."

Though that might have Big Brother connotations for the

average child, in extreme cases, such as truancy, automated messaging helps to root out a problem before it becomes beyond solution.

Among options for the future, the district is looking at a special truancy tracking facility that would allow all truancies to be recorded and monitored via a special entry code. This, it seems, could also help to fund the system because state governments only pay districts for the number of days each child is in school.

But the success of voice mail in education will ultimately rely on users such as Terri Morse, a teacher at Mission Elementary School, who regards the technology as a more personalised way to talk to parents. "A lot of parents find it difficult to express themselves on paper. Voice mail can help to overcome the problem and gives us a more personal view of how parents feel."

All this, of course, assumes that mail boxes are regularly listened to, messages updated and participants speak to the teachers directly if needed. A common criticism of voice mail among the growing numbers of users in Europe is that the service often appears little better than a frustrating extension of the answerphone. Octel says that this is mainly because of lack of proper training for mailbox users.

NICK COTTAM



WE'LL STOP THE 2.4 million people, 2,000 services, 148 countries. WORLD IF YOU At this rate, the whole world will be on CompuServe. WANT TO GET ON



Get online FREE, call 0800 289378

In 1967, Marshall McLuhan prophesied the global village. Quarter of a century later, he'd be amazed to see CompuServe's Information Superhighway thundering through its centre.

Nowadays, with just a PC and a modem, anyone can drive around more than 2,000 services from personal finance to "PA" News, Reuters to AA RoadWatch. Plus access to the Internet, the UK What's On Guide, airline schedules, technical support, stock quotes, reference, and arts from Britain and every corner of the globe — with e-mail connections to over 20 million people worldwide. And all in one easy-to-use package that costs from around £6 a month.

For your free CompuServe software (Windows, DOS or Mac), free first month's membership and £10 usage credit, call 9am — 9pm weekdays, 10am — 5pm Saturdays. Or write to: CompuServe UK, 1 Redcliff Street, PO Box 676 Bristol BS99 1YN.

TO ADVERTISE
CALL: 071 481 1066

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

FAX:
071 782 7826

Why the Japanese pick apricots

Apricot Computers Ltd, part of Mitsubishi Electric (UK) Ltd, has to be the most exciting UK based IT manufacturer today. Spearheading advancements in PC development, even the Japanese recognise our technology, picking Apricots time and time again. To enhance such in-house expertise, we now seek a strong minded individual to make a major impact on the future direction of our R & D activities, specifically within the systems verification and Server arenas.

Senior Development Manager

A dual role, your responsibilities will cover the management and development of the thriving systems verification group - both hardware and software - as well as the proactive shaping and direction of PC development activities, particularly for Server products. Managing a multi-disciplined team, your personality and technical expertise will be pivotal in maintaining a cohesive and productive unit and essential in resolving all third party support issues and becoming the Server guru within Apricot.

Educated to degree level, your ten years IT/electronics experience will have equipped you with unrivalled hardware/software verification knowledge and an expert eye in the environment and mechanics of Server, UNIX and networking. A competent people-manager, your powers of communication, motivation and determination will be matched by your ability to think on your feet and lead by example, continually striving to deliver excellence both through your team and independently.

To match the influence and scope this role offers, you can expect an excellent salary and remuneration package, including quality car, private health, life assurance and relocation (where applicable).

To apply, please contact our advising consultant Corinne Nutt at Alexander Mann Associates, 4200 Waterside Centre, Solihull Parkway, Birmingham Business Park, Birmingham B37 3YN. Telephone 021 717 4805. Facsimile 021 717 4818.

apricot

We discriminate only on ability.

DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION SERVICES

Epsom, Surrey c.£50,000 p.a. + Company car

One of Europe's largest and most broadly-based professional services consultancies, WS Atkins employs over 4,000 people world-wide, including many graduate engineers, scientists, planners and management consultants. With ongoing projects in nearly 100 countries, we have a continuing demand for the best in information systems and services.

The new Director of Information Services we're seeking will be joining us against a background of continuing rapid growth, coinciding with a new corporate IT strategy. In heading up a fifteen strong team, your role will be to implement and enhance this strategy, using the most appropriate technology to contribute to increasing profitability. Your responsibilities will also cover providing world-wide information network services and corporate business support services (to: finance, marketing, personnel and office systems).

You should combine a relevant degree and a professional IT qualification with a successful track record of managing and implementing change. You should also possess the management and motivation skills needed to lead and develop a team of professionals in a services environment.

Initially, please write, enclosing your full CV, salary history, together with a covering letter explaining why you believe you are suited to the role, to Roger Emberson, Personnel Director, WS Atkins Consultants, Woodcote Grove, Ashley Road, Epsom, Surrey KT18 5BW.

Committed to equal opportunities.

WS/Atkins

MANAGING DIRECTOR

FUTURE ELECTRONICS is an \$800 million plus multinational corporation in the worldwide distribution of sophisticated electronic components with an innovative approach to business. As one of the fastest growing global electronic component distributors, we have a unique opportunity for a professional, aggressive, competitive individual to take charge of our operations in GERMANY.

Based at our German head office in MUNICH, you will have total P & L responsibility for our eight branches in Germany. This unique demanding position requires an individual who is fluent in German, possessing very strong leadership ability. You must be a detail oriented perfectionist who is able to work under pressure, with a strong capability to motivate and communicate.

The successful candidate will have a solid educational background, together with a successful track record of experience at a senior "executive" level, be results-oriented and analytical with an intense determination to succeed.

To the right candidate, we offer challenge and opportunity. An excellent compensation package is offered commensurate with experience and ability. If you are eager to an exciting and fulfilling career, please send your resume in the strictest of confidence to:

Rick Hawron - Vice President, Europe
FUTURE ELECTRONICS LTD.
Future House, Poyle Road
Colnbrook, Berkshire SL3 0EZ

"We are an equal opportunity employer"

FUTURE ELECTRONICS

FUTURE

A leading US manufacturer of I/O Hardware and Software products for the PC/AT, Micro Channel and compatible computers has immediate openings for:

European Distribution Sales Manager

This candidate should have minimum of 5 years experience in the Pan-European distribution market place with experience in the development and implementation of sales and marketing plans for new and existing distribution accounts. Candidates should have European computer peripheral industry background with demonstrated effectiveness in retail and supermarket distribution channels. Frequent travel is required. Business or Technical degree preferred. German language skill a plus.

Technical Support Engineer

The ideal candidate will have a minimum demonstrated experience in telephone and customer support. Knowledge of ISA, EISA, VESA and PCI Bus architectures, disk interfaces (SCSI and IDE) with MS/PC-DOS, Windows, Novell and OS/2 operating system is required. UNIX knowledge is a definite plus. Both candidates must possess excellent oral and written skills for this highly demanding environment. Compensation commensurate with experience. Excellent benefits package. For consideration, please fax or send your resume to the address below. Please no telephone calls.

Future Domain Corp. United Kingdom
Royal Albert House
Sheet Street
Windsor
Berkshire SL4 1BE
Fax 01753-620184

IT Infrastructure Manager

Providing synergy to our UK businesses

Excellent salary, bonus + car

Surrey Base

Cargill is a multinational agricultural, food and financial company that ranks among the world's largest privately owned businesses. In the UK Cargill PLC employs more than 5000 people across a range of trading, merchandising and processing operations.

Following an internal transfer, the opportunity exists for an IT Infrastructure Manager to join a small headquarters team. Reporting to the UK IT Manager, the objective is to ensure the computing infrastructure implemented for UK businesses provides maximum return on investment and is compatible with corporate design and strategic principles. The position is responsible for providing technical leadership and guidelines on client/server, data and voice communications across a diverse business base.

Suitable candidates are likely to have a related degree or HND qualification, five years' experience in voice/data telecommunications allied with prior success in a computing infrastructure role. As well as first class technical skills, it is essential that the person has the ability to communicate effectively with commercial management and understands associated business issues.

In return, we will provide both a motivating and challenging work environment, plus real opportunities for career development. Salary package will reflect the importance of the role. Benefits include a contributory pension scheme and health insurance.



Please write with full career and current salary details to Steve Pheasant, HR Manager, Cargill PLC, Knowle Hill Park, Fairmile Lane, Cobham, Surrey KT11 2PD. Tel: 0932 861269. Fax: 0932 861284.

DIRECTOR ASSET MANAGEMENT

FUTURE ELECTRONICS is an \$800 million plus multinational corporation in the worldwide distribution of sophisticated electronic components with a most innovative approach to business.

Due to our tremendous growth, we are looking for a senior manager, between the ages of 30 and 45, to lead our European Asset Management Team. Your responsibility will be to fully manage our European corporate inventory using advanced asset resource management procedures. Your mandate will include the purchasing functions and minimising inventory levels for all products. You will be strategically positioned to help our business.

Ideally, you are a hands-on, detailed-oriented, entrepreneurial leader who is intensely energetic and able to communicate and interface at all levels. You must have a university degree with a minimum of ten years business experience. A professional accounting designation would be a definite asset. We are looking for a results and profit-driven individual who is determined to succeed.

To the right candidate, we offer tremendous challenge with an opportunity to relocate, if you desire, to our corporate headquarters in Montreal, Canada. If you are eager for a new, exciting and fulfilling career, in the world's fastest growing industry, please send your resume in the strictest of confidence to:

Rick Hawron - Vice President, Europe
FUTURE ELECTRONICS LTD.
Future House, Poyle Road
Colnbrook, Berkshire SL3 0EZ

"We are an equal opportunity employer"

FUTURE ELECTRONICS

UNIDATA

Advanced Relational Technology

Financial Director Designate

Unidata is a rapidly growing, privately held software company, operating on a world-wide basis.

We now wish to appoint two senior executives, to head up the financial and technical project functions respectively.

Professional Services Director Designate

This is an excellent opportunity for dynamic and motivated individuals, probably in their mid-30's, to share in the very exciting growth of an established database company with many blue-chip customers. Candidates are likely to already hold senior line management positions in high technology companies, and be looking for a significant opportunity to move forward working with a tightly focused professional management team, based in Milton Keynes, UK.

Excellent packages, including executive car option, BUPA and bonus scheme.

The Financial Director, fully qualified and experienced in all aspects of financial management, will be expected to assume control through an established team, of all financial areas of the European operation, including overseas offices.

Interested candidates should write in the first instance, enclosing a full CV, to:

Hayley Rust, Personnel Manager
Unidata (UK) Limited, 12 Warren Yard, Wolverton Mill, Milton Keynes MK12 5NW.

Phone: 01908 221191 Fax: 01908 221443

Strictly no agencies please.

The Professional Services Director will be responsible for the management of complex software projects, both directly and through project managers. A thorough background in Cobol and/or C/UNIX software development and project management is essential, as is a hands-on, can-do attitude and proven man-management skills.

CHEMICAL

Chemical Bank is one of the leading banks in America, with assets in the region of US \$170 billion and employing 41,000 staff worldwide with a presence in every region in the world.

PROJECT LEADER

An opportunity has arisen for a Project Leader to join a team developing a leading-edge front office risk management system, based on AS400 technology. The role requires working closely with front office users, co-ordinating their requests, and translating them into sophisticated system solutions. Excellent knowledge of the Derivatives market is required, especially FRA's, Swaps, Futures and Options, with a strong Capital Markets background.

Candidates must combine an outstanding degree with 4 years+ AS400/RPG400 experience, demonstrating both a high degree of responsibility and a track record of achievements. Freedom to travel internationally is essential, a sound understanding of new technology is desirable.

This high profile position offers the perfect opportunity for the successful candidate to build an exciting career within one of the most significant forces in international investment banking and corporate finance.

To apply please post or fax your CV to Simpsons Consultants, Ingletts House, Wareside, Herts, SG12 7RR. Tel. 0920 462678 Fax. 0920 463571. All Agency enquiries should be directed to Simpsons Consultants.

MAKE OUR SELLING SUCCESS YOURS

ICG INFORMATION GROUP is the country's leading business information provider - and we are growing. Continuing high level investment means new and exciting opportunities for enthusiastic, ambitious, career oriented sales people.

Candidates will have a proven track record of developing business opportunities at all levels within corporate accounts. You will preferably be experienced in major accounts or IT related industries and have a sound educational background. You will be selling a range of company information and financial products into a wide variety of responsibility for identifying and developing new and existing business.

Successful candidates will manage territories in the South of England and enjoy a generous basic with commission and an impressive benefits package.

Please send CV's to Chris Edmunds, Ashley Courts Associates Ltd, 87 Regent Street, London, W1R 7HF. Tel: 0171 734 5153.

TELESALES EXECUTIVES

Graduates with telephones experience in media sales to expand established sales teams. Existing Blue Chip client/database. Full product and sales training provided. Client presentation essential. CVs required.

Salary OTE £20,000+ plus share scheme.
READMAR SYSTEMS LIMITED
239 Kilburn Park Road London NW6 5LG.
TEL: 0171-625-5255

Barry Fox on the changes in compact disc technology and how fun and games are taking over the once staid Philips

Action at the tips of your fingers

The future for the compact disc could become clearer this year, but with a string of unexpected twists. Commercial expediency is the name of the game. Philips has made expensive mistakes over recent years, chief among them staying too long with loser audio, video and television systems. Now the Dutch company is more flexible and could recoup past losses from new uses for CD technology.

Even before Philips launched music CDs ten years ago, the company was planning to use the same pressed discs as read-only memories — or CD-Roms — to distribute computer software to business users.

The technical performance of a CD-Rom system was judged to be more important than ease of use. So Philips also developed — for the consumer market — CD-i, the interactive compact disc system, a user-friendly player that unravels a mix of text, sound and picture images stored on the same "multimedia" disc.

The original plan was for CD-i to carry a mix of education and entertainment, but the consumer yawned at such worthiness and bought Sega and Nintendo video games instead. So 18 months ago Philips coined the slogan "Fun is the name of the game", and started selling CD-i discs that are unashamedly games.

At the same time, the computer

industry changed course, too, and put multimedia and games, as well as business data, on CD-Roms for personal computers. But as people who buy CD-Roms know, the system is far from user-friendly.

Meanwhile, the once technically impossible has become possible. The CD system was designed to record hi-fi stereo sound, which needs a stream of 1.5 million bits a second. Video compression technology now makes it possible for an ordinary CD to store digital TV pictures as well as stereo sound. When care is taken with the compression process, the picture and sound quality can surpass VHS tape.

Here again, Philips' position has changed. Until two years ago, Philips rather smoothly planned to put video on CD only as an integral part of education. Now the Dutch company has offices in Hollywood and is investing heavily in the release of feature films licensed from the major studios.

Feature films that have been digitally compressed by Philips, such as *Apocalypse Now* and *Indecent Proposal*, and music videos such as *Sting's Ten Summoners' Tales*, show what the system can deliver. By the middle of this year all the James Bond films will be available on video CD.

Commercial alliances are also fluid. In the 1980s, Philips formed an alliance with the Japanese giants Sony and Matsushita



Live action: the old-style arcade video game Mad Dog McCree has been put on a single CD which plays on a CD-i player hooked to a domestic television set

(Panasonic) to market CD-i as a world standard format. But both brands broke ranks. Panasonic now backs the 3DO games system in direct competition with CD-i. Sony is launching its own rival CD games system, called Play Station. All three are incompatible.

Despite these rifts, Panasonic and Sony have continued to join with Philips and support an annual conference on CD-i. Just before Christmas, at the fifth event, held in Düsseldorf, the Japanese game plan at last became clear. The clue was in a subtle change of conference title, and an added backer. The Japanese company JVC joined

in and the event was renamed "the CD-i and Video CD Conference".

At Düsseldorf, it became clear that Sony, Panasonic and JVC all believe that the Japanese consumer is not yet ready for full interactivity of the type offered by CD-i. Though Sega and Nintendo have grown rich on the Japanese fervour for video games, these require very little creative thought. Takao Ihashi, Sony's general manager of multimedia, says: "Japanese consumers can't understand the benefit of interactivity. That is why we are introducing simple video CD."

The Japanese manufacturers see Video CD as a stepping stone to the

future. It offers limited interactivity, much like a VHS tape, but with much faster access to selected points of a recording because no time is wasted on winding tape.

Video CD also fulfils another function for the Japanese. It neatly bridges the gap between rival and incompatible games and interactive formats: CD-i, 3DO and Commodore's CD32. Most other CD games systems can be easily modified to play Video CDs, by adding a digital video adapter. Some PCs with CD-Rom drives can also be modified to play video CDs and CD-i discs.

In practice, however, many exist-

ing CD-Rom drives are incapable of reading data from Video CDs, and most cannot cope with CD-i discs. This is creating a market opportunity for a new breed of PCs that come, off the shelf, fully equipped and ready to play both Video CD and CD-i software.

Mad Dog McCree, a new CD-i game, points the way to the future. Mad Dog was developed as an arcade video game. It relied on a bulky computer and LaserDisc player to put pictures of cowboys on a screen, which customers "shoot" with a light-sensitive gun.

Cap Disc, an American software company, has put the full pro-

gramme on a single CD, which plays on a CD-i player linked to a domestic TV set. As cowboys shoot or get shot, the CD-i player searches film sequences on the disc, which take the storyline along different routes. Computer graphics generate gunshot effects that blend seamlessly with the video action.

A few minutes playing Mad Dog McCree on a CD-i system gives a far better pointer to the future of multimedia as an entertainment, educational and business tool than any written article can possibly convey. And playing Mad Dog McCree is a whole lot more fun than reading about it.

Viruses sweep the Net

A new form of computer virus could reach epidemic proportions, assisted by transmission over the Internet, software security experts say. Companies are so keen to get online to the worldwide information network that they are failing to include proper security measures when they install an Internet gateway. This is leaving them wide open to hacking and to viruses that infect much of the mass of free software being transmitted over the Net.

Recently, a form of virus that mutates every time it moves — making it difficult to detect — has damaged some corporate and private systems. Such polymorphic viruses also encrypt themselves until the software to which they are attached becomes active. They then decode themselves, replicate in other parts of a computer such as the operating system or the hard disc, and re-encode ready for the next metamorphosis. A particularly virulent form is known as Dark Avenger.

A survey by the National Computing Centre says that virus infections doubled last year, and it estimates the loss to British industry as £128 million. Each virus is also estimated to infect about 142 computers before it is successfully con-

Don't forget security when going online, say software experts

ained, and each attack is likely to cause an average of two days' downtime.

David Emm, the technical support manager for S&S International, the software company that developed the widely used Dr Solomon Virus Scanning Software, says there has been a dramatic increase in virus infection. "At the end of 1990, there were about 200 known viruses and last year 800 or 1,000 new ones. Now we see about 100 new viruses or variants of existing ones a month."

"In the past few months we have seen polymorphic viruses which mutate so that every infection looks different and there is no straight sequence you can scan for."

But the picture is not all gloom. For a start, Mr Emm says, success breeds failure — if a virus kills the system it infects, it stands little chance of being passed on and it attracts special efforts to eradicate it. "Most viruses in the field do very little, if any, damage — just tricks

such as displaying a message, making keys beep or making your floppy disc timeout," he says.

Added to that, most viruses are sloppily written. "They don't have to test their products or anything," he says. "A lot of viruses simply don't do what they were designed to do."

The advent of "Internet-ready" personal computers, which include software and a modem to get buyers online with just a phone call, have forced the manufacturers to take viruses seriously.

Compaq's DeskPro machines, for example, have a built-in virus detector called Safe Start. It sounds the alarm if a virus attacks the system and it checks the computer every time it is switched on to check whether any unauthorised changes have been made.

Based on the various settings of the files on the hard disc, the virus checker compares the result with a code based on "clean" software. If they do not tally, a message is screened indicating where the change has occurred. The user should then be able to use scanning software to identify any virus and kill it.

CHRIS PARTRIDGE

Canadian research is looking at the 'communications device' of the future

A pager made to suit your lifestyle

Prepare to wear your mobile communications device. In the future, you won't carry a mobile phone or even a futuristic personal communicator in your hand because it could be part of your daily ensemble.

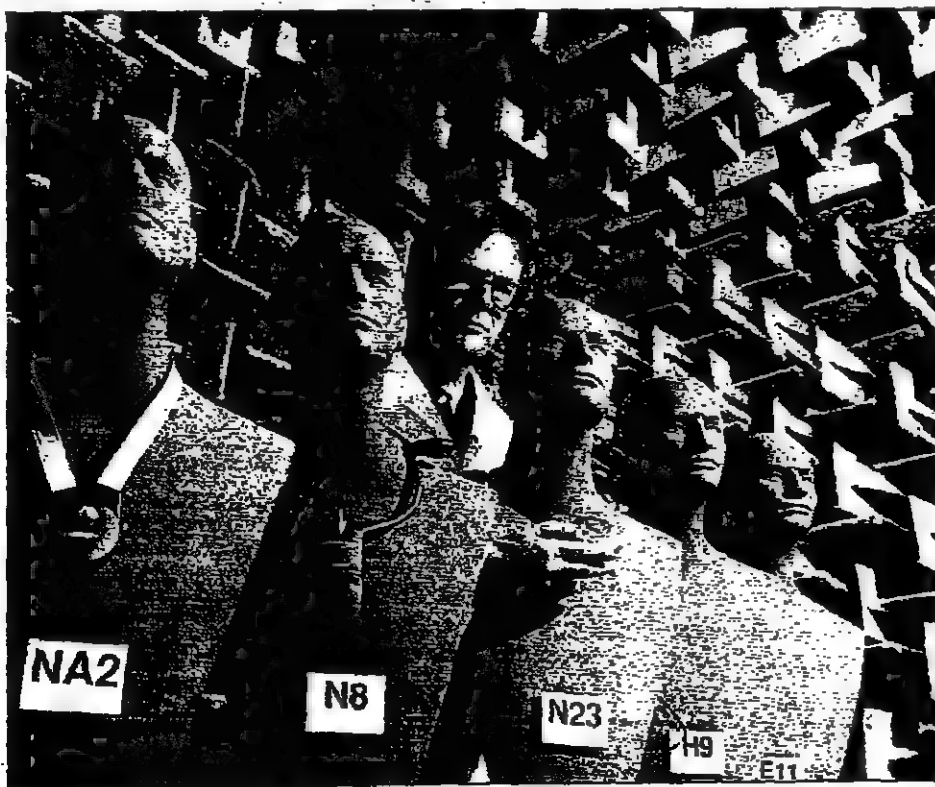
At least that is the prediction of Bell-Northern Research (BNR) — joint research and development subsidiary of Northern Telecom and Bell Canada, the two telecom giants — which has been researching wireless communication devices for the future.

Jeff Fairless, product design manager for new terminals and services at BNR's corporate design group, says that years of testing and design on devices have led his group to conclude that users will want personal, highly flexible versions of the present mobile phone and pager.

These conclusions are part of an overall design project at BNR that has led to the development of something called the Orbitor, a pocket-sized wireless device that uses advanced voice recognition and a touch-sensitive screen to deliver voice, messages and take notes.

Mr Fairless says that to succeed, devices in the future will need to be smaller and more personal than the present breed of electronic notepads.

"People attach a lot of value to a device that is personal — like an item of jewellery — so wearing a device is slightly different than carrying one," he says. "It must be functional



A researcher measures the acoustic properties of advanced personal hands-free devices

and make a statement about the person who wears it. It must also be something that they will be comfortable to be seen with."

He cites the growing number of American teenagers buying multi-coloured designer pagers to wear as fashion items as much as communication devices.

Orbitor, though it is not yet a product, does exist as a series of specifications, as a computer simulation and a series of physical mock-ups.

In the same way that the technologies needed by the American space programme of the 1960s to put a man on the Mercury and Gemini unmanned space missions, BNR is developing its Orbitor technologies so that they can be

used, where applicable, in other, slightly less ambitious projects as they come to fruition.

In the survey, many people said there were times when they did not want to be in ready contact.

Many existing mobile phone users complained that their existing systems were too intrusive and had often embarrassed them by ringing at inopportune moments. Mr Fairless says that people want to be able to pick and choose when they are available on their mobile system and to whom they will be available.

One proposed solution to the latter is a series of personal "availability modes" on the Orbitor. If you were in a board

meeting, for example, you could put the device in "meeting mode" so that you were interrupted only if telephone calls were received from certain pre-defined numbers or were designated emergency calls.

The system would digitally detect where the call was coming from, then route it either to the Orbitor or send the call to your voice mail system. Mr Fairless says this kind of choice and control is what prevents most mobile communications systems from being "personal" enough for people at the moment.

Until it arrives, however, the Orbitor is the best wireless personal communications device that money cannot buy.

GEOFF WHEELWRIGHT

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Aim for the top in distribution management.

At Tesco, we aim to provide the best product and customer service in the country. Our high standards are reflected in the success of our retail operation, serviced by a network of twenty distribution centres throughout the UK. Using the latest stock control systems, we work to tight delivery schedules, ensuring the optimum availability of stock for all our customers.

To sustain and improve our service, we're seeking managers at all levels through to Distribution Centre Controller. Vacancies currently exist in Westbury, Wiltshire; Harlow, Essex; Weybridge, Surrey and Southampton. Given the continued growth of our Distribution network, we anticipate vacancies at other locations throughout the country.

Applicants should have a professional, analytical approach to work, combined with modern people management skills. Suitable candidates are likely to have an academic background balanced with a sound track record in operational management and/or central planning activity.

In return, we're offering excellent career opportunities and benefits plus highly competitive salaries, according to job level and experience.

TESCO

If you believe you have the required qualities to take on a demanding role with a modern distribution operation, write with full personal and career details to Ian Jefcoate, Distribution Personnel Manager, Tesco Stores Ltd, Pitfield, Kilm Farm, Milton Keynes, MK11 3ED.

Tesco is an equal opportunities employer.

Talent in the telecottage

Over the past 18 months, "telecottage" centres have been busy capitalising on the technological improvements of the last five years. The idea for the centres was imported from Scandinavia in the late 1980s and there are now 130 in Britain, mainly in rural areas. They provide a communal technological workplace where facilities can be used by people or companies on a hire basis.

"We might take in a contract from a large client to do work here, or sub-contract part of that work to a small business," says Jane Berry, manager of the Wren (Warwickshire Rural Enterprise Network) Telecottage, which deals with around 50 small businesses at Stoneleigh Park.

Each telecottage has its own focus, but they provide a marketplace where the IT professional can shop for work, receive subsidised IT training and services, and use the telecottage as an agent to place work and skills in the appropriate market.

Ms Berry says: "Someone with a portfolio career, who is perhaps employed for a couple of days a week and may then work as a freelance for a range of clients for the other three, needs a workplace." For those who need to sell their skills to potential employers, or

Clive Couldwell reports on technological centres that provide the skills and equipment that clients and workers need

clients, the telecottage offers a cost-effective way of acquiring technology and marketing expertise.

IT skills in a teleworking environment become resources bought from an electronic pool of talent as they are needed, an approach which fits in well with the way many companies are now streamlining their IT operations, placing them under the control of other companies.

Teleworking is one way of bringing in outside skills, and is particularly useful if the right kind of know-how is in short supply. "Benefits to the worker include a better lifestyle and access to work not available locally," says David Child, who manages Teleteam UK, an employment agency specialising in setting up and overseeing international teams of teleworkers.

"Offering key staff the option of teleworking is also being seen as a competitive advantage when recruiting them," says Alan Denbigh, executive director of the Telecottage Association. With these sorts of commercial and economic pressures forcing companies to

rethink how they structure their skill base, and the publicity surrounding the new concept of sharing of knowledge on the information superhighway, the idea of flexible working is proving attractive.

Ofcom, the research company, predicts that by the turn of the century, American and European markets for "any computer work carried out outside company-owned premises" will have increased 30 times, from £700 million in 1992 to more than £21 billion.

Although this kind of working has not been taken up as strongly as many forecasters predicted, a growing band of IT professionals working from telecottage centres now includes programmers, systems analysts, management consultants and providers of data-entry services.

Edward Hasted, director of Ashmount Research, a software publisher, says: "When someone comes to see us, they look at our 600 sq ft of office space and ask where everyone is. We just point to the computers and the modems." The

company has been recruiting teleworkers for about five years. It now employs a staff of 20. "We have met almost all of them online, rather than conventionally recruiting them through agencies," he says.

As software development becomes more complex, program functions are being split up into sets of complementary modules which will then slot together. Mr Hasted says: "It is therefore becoming more important for us to maintain a skills register that we can use to pull in the appropriate expertise." Ashmount Research's ability to recruit its IT staff online is a by-product of its business methods, but Mr Hasted says that candidates can be measured more accurately electronically.

"Our evaluations are done over a long period of time," he says. "We analyse conversations that we have about the product and the quality of the points being made, assessing whether people are trying to flaunt their knowledge, or understate it. Quite often we give them test work to do and see how it comes back."

Teleworker, the Telecottage Association's magazine (E395), runs a recruitment page for clients and employers seeking teleworkers. Contact Alan Denbigh on 0453 834854. Teleteam claims to be the only teleworking agency in the world. Agents represent the company and its members abroad.



Jan Kenyon, left, working on Wren's equipment with Jane Berry, the centre's manager

TO ADVERTISE
CALL: 071 481 1066

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

FAX:
071 782 7826

"HANDS ON" IT MANAGER WEST LONDON

Package value circa £27,500

This is a new post created to provide a focal point for all our IT issues. Its aim is to co-ordinate our current computing activity and to implement and support systems to help us help London's homeless people.

You will be required to:

- plan and manage the work of our small IT Department
 - develop and implement systems that meet users' needs. Our systems are likely to be a mixture of in-house and package solutions
 - train and support staff in the use of a range of PC packages
 - manage, on a day to day basis, SMA's voice and data networks
- The following skills and experience are essential:
- ability to plan both project and support work
 - strong analytical skills
 - in-depth experience of packages preferably Paradox, Wordperfect and Lotus 123
 - experience of supporting network systems
 - a passion for providing a quality support service
 - experience of working with external software developers
 - ability to motivate staff

We offer 25 days Annual Leave and a generous Pension Plan

CLOSING DATE FOR COMPLETED APPLICATIONS: 27th January 1995
INTERVIEW DATE: 7th February 1995

For further information and an application form, please telephone Peter Jackson on (071) 286 4432 (24 hour answerphone) or write giving your name, address and stating the reference number: ITE/9501, to:



St Mungo Association
217 Harrow Road
London
W2 5XQ

SMA strives to be an equal opportunities employer

a world of opportunities

UK • SWITZERLAND • USA • CANADA • ITALY •
SPAIN • GERMANY • BENELUX COUNTRIES

Kestrel specialises in providing highly sought after SAP opportunities at a variety of skill levels and a choice of world-wide locations. We represent a number of successful organisations, all of whom offer competitive salary and benefits packages, both contract and permanent, within challenging working environments.

Our clients currently seek the following skilled professionals:
Documenters, Trainers, Programmers, Analysts, Project Managers and Users with relevant modular experience.

Visa applications, accommodation, travel arrangements and medical insurance are all dealt with by Kestrel and your new employer.

For further information on the range of opportunities available, please phone, fax or post your current CV, detailing a minimum of 6 months SAP experience to:

Kestrel Consulting
BTC, Reservoir Drive
Stevenage, Herts SG1 2DX
Tel: 01438 310155 Fax: 01438 310131
or e-mail/weekender: Mark Harris 01767 631482



at the centre
of the IT
industry

NCC is a world leader in the drive for the effective use of computing, providing technical solutions to business problems, we offer the following opportunities:

EDUCATION & TRAINING BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

Location: Manchester

Leading a sales and support team you will be responsible for achieving revenue targets and growing business for NCC's Education & Training services. With a major focus on international markets, you will be involved in formulating and implementing sales strategies and opening new markets.

Ideally educated to degree level or equivalent, you will be able to demonstrate a successful track record in sales and sales management, preferably in the education and training field. Experience of managing third party channels will be a distinct advantage, as will any experience of franchising.

You will have the ability to communicate effectively at all levels with a high degree of motivation and innovative flair. You must be prepared to travel both in the UK and overseas, and above all, you must be able to make an immediate contribution.

Reference number: ST/EDM/01/95

SALES ACCOUNT MANAGER: OPEN SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY

NCC is a supplier of advanced technology for network integration. Your role will be to develop a close business with leading suppliers of communications systems in Europe. Where necessary you will have the support of specialist engineers, but you must possess sufficient knowledge of modern networks to communicate confidently with engineers and managers in customer organisations, as well as to demonstrate UNIX-based tools. Previous technical sales experience is essential. Reference number: ST/SAM/01/95

Please send your CV and a cover letter to the Personnel and Training Manager, NCC Limited, Oxford House, Oxford Road, Manchester, M1 7ED quoting the relevant reference number.

NO JOBS HERE!

...just serious career opportunities.

Elit Lilly is one of the world's leading pharmaceutical companies. An energetic and forward thinking multi-national, their products enhance the health and well-being of millions worldwide.

The keys to the companies success are the systems that support all aspects of their business, and their strategic plans have created a number of exciting new roles based in Basingstoke:

Data Architect to £31,000

Your imagination and knowledge, combined with your strong methods and modelling experience (preferably on an Oracle platform), will enable you to play a key role in the development and testing of new systems.

Client Server Analyst to £29,000

In establishing this challenging new role you will design, deliver and implement decision support and data warehousing systems for UK users. As a team player you will be expected to assist server technology in an Oracle/SQL environment, you will enjoy dealing with a wide variety of data.

Analyst Programmer (Customer Care) to £25,000

Passionate about customer care, you will join a new high profile unit analysing and re-engineering processes vital to the success of the company. You should have full project lifecycle experience based on modern development methods. Some knowledge of JD Edwards Financial and Distribution modules and imaging would be an asset.

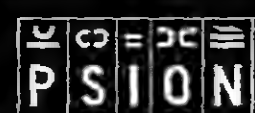
Each of these vacancies attracts an excellent benefits package and opportunities to progress limited only by your own ambition.

If you want to develop and flourish with a company dedicated to 'making it happen' and not just a job, call our managing consultants Andy Roberts and Steve Shirley at:

Hastings, PO Box 18X, 110-113 Tottenham Court Road, London W1A 1BX
Telephone: 0171 383 3888 (0378 341360 even) Fax: 0171 397 2048
E-mail: 1001253616@compuserve.com



Lilly Industries is a subsidiary of Eli Lilly and Company Indianapolis



Customer Services Manager

Salary: £24 - £26,000 plus benefits

Psion's rapidly growing

Customer Services

Department is dedicated to

generating the highest level

of customer

satisfaction through the

provision of technical and

sales support services.

Product maintenance and a

range of value-added

initiatives. This department is

at the centre of a highly

successful company and

actively supports both

consumer and corporate

users of Psion computers.

For more information

contact:

01753 611111

01753 611112

01753 611113

01753 611114

01753 611115

01753 611116

01753 611117

01753 611118

01753 611119

01753 611120

01753 611121

01753 611122

01753 611123

01753 611124

01753 611125

01753 611126

01753 611127

01753 611128

01753 611129

01753 611130

We are seeking a talented manager to head the Customer Services Department, capable of generating imaginative service initiatives and implementing these. In addition, the position entails managing an expanding technical "hotline" group, a sales enquiry desk and dedicated support desks for Psion's registered developers and corporate customers in the UK and abroad. The department regularly publishes a news bulletin.

Ideally, the successful candidate will be an articulate and literate graduate with a good degree and strong man-management skills. For the right person, this is an excellent opportunity which can open an exciting career path in a market-leading company.

Sales Manager NOTEBOOK COMPUTERS

The Dual Group is technology leader in the rapidly expanding notebook computer market and has been awarded the Byte magazine award for product excellence, for the second year in succession.

We have one of the widest product ranges in the world including currently the world's fastest notebook with further major launches planned for the coming months.

Due to continued expansion we need an exceptional individual to spearhead our sales team. With previous experience of PC Sales, you must be able to lead an enthusiastic team from the front. Specific experience of notebook sales and education to HND or Degree level will be advantageous. A highly competitive salary package will be offered.

PLEASE CALL TODAY (SUNDAY) ON 01223 841551 OR

Send your CV to Sarah Bradford, Dual Group (UK) Ltd,
Mill House, Mill Court, Great Shelford, Cambridge CB2 5LD

DUAL GROUP (UK) LTD

Systems Specialists

London based

SAP environment

Our client, a division of a major US multinational company, is rapidly expanding its world wide markets. At the same time it is continually advancing the pace of its technological innovation and customer service delivery to maintain its position as a world class organisation.

Critical to this growth is the alignment of information systems within the business strategy, rather than simply implementing technology. The IS department has a key role in ensuring the optimal use of technology to sustain the business's competitive advantage. To keep pace with this challenge it has an immediate requirement to enhance its expert team.

Opportunities exist for senior systems specialists to lead key European projects in financial services, customer services, inventory and forecasting and a major programme to integrate these with manufacturing, to create a multi tiered client/server environment that serves the whole business.

The projects will be to analyse business requirements, generate program specification, develop programs and participate in the implementation and further enhancement of integrated information systems.

Successful candidates will be graduates with at least five years' experience in a mainframe environment, in systems analysis, program specification and development and package implementation on multi functional projects, preferably including an element of project leadership. SAP and client/server experience will be an advantage, as will an additional European language.

There are also openings for graduate professionals with up to three years' experience in a similar environment to join the project teams.

All the positions will involve an amount of European travel; they will attract salaries negotiable from £30k + car at the senior level and £21k at the professional level, generous employment packages and excellent personal development and career progression opportunities.

If you match the above criteria and are looking to develop your career in a substantial multinational company, send your CV with current salary details, explaining how you meet the requirements for the positions to:



Chris Cundy, PK Selection,
39 Floral Street, London WC2E 9DG
Fax: 071 240 0366

COMPUTER SPECIALIST

- Salary Neg. A.A.E. (to £38K)

Due to recent expansion, our Japanese clients are currently recruiting a number of computer specialists. We are particularly interested in receiving applications from computing graduates, postgraduates, teachers and expert staff, as well as AS400 support engineers.

For further details, please contact: **Kenji Imai** on
Tel: 071 437 4301 Fax: 071 439 6128

FIRST RECRUITMENT CENTRE
2 Sharnbrook Street, London, W1V 7EL

LOGISTICS • ACCOUNTS •

Are you looking for a new challenge in or around the London area? We are an expanding agency currently seeking logistics and accounts personnel to register for permanent and temporary opportunities. For an application form, call:

HOGARTH RECRUITMENT: 071 370 2801

Software Developers

Sinara Consultants Ltd is a small software consultancy, developing bespoke software for a variety of clients, mainly in the financial sector.

We are currently seeking to expand our team. Our ideal candidate will be comfortable at all stages within the software life-cycle, with an emphasis on design and implementation skills. It is more important to demonstrate a practical knowledge of sound software engineering principles than to have experienced specific development environments. However we do require at least 2 years C/C++ and Relational Database experience. Knowledge of the following will be advantageous:

MS-Windows, Unix; Client Server; Object Oriented techniques.

Benefits include a salary range of £20-£30k, profit share, plus the opportunity to work in a friendly and flexible environment. If you would like to join us, please send your CV to Dennis Church at:

Sinara Consultants Ltd, 4 Bath Street, London EC1V 9DX.



GALLERIES page 36

Photographer in focus:
what was it like to model
for one of the century's
most innovative artists?

ARTS

POP page 37

Shades of the 1970s?
The Black Crowes just
play it like it is, insists
singer Chris Robinson



OPERA: The *Times* opera critic and fashion editor review the Miller/Armani collaboration

Mozart made to measure

To play *Così fan tutte* in modern dress is a risky business. We don't really go in for true love and eternal fidelity any more. Perhaps we never did. At least we have stopped pretending now, if for no other reason than that we have seen *Così fan tutte* too often.

The risk is compounded in Jonathan Miller's new production for the Royal Opera: to imagine that these smart sophisticates in their Armani frocks would strike the attitudes demanded by the plot of the opera requires suspension of disbelief on an epic scale. In the second act the sisters are revealed to be in the fashion business, and Despina, whose function up to that point has been something of a mystery, is their assistant, not a maid-servant as in *Don Giovanni*. And this Absolutely Fabulous character requires a *bribe* to take part in the charade?

All of which having been said, and after an uneasy interval, disbelief very largely is suspended thanks to the quality of the direction, its wit and — in the last half-hour of the show — its Stygian darkness. There are some good, if queasy, laughs early on: the men going forth to war in their UN berets, blood samples (ugh) taken before the Mesmer treatment, Fiordiligi turning wonderfully schoolmistress in "Come scoglio", the disguised men making cool mock of their designer-hippie disguises.

But in the second half it is nervous-collapse time. The men would probably kill each other were Don Alfonso not there to separate them; Ferrando's "sincere" acting in his wooing of Fiordiligi and his macho cockiness afterwards are absolutely chilling; and even the denouement, when the disguises are revealed and we usually sigh with relief, is as black as *Hades* — there was not a laugh to be heard. At the final curtain all

Così fan tutte
Covent Garden

exit separately, grimly. Oh dear. Miller's minimalist, colour-free set is permanent: the frocks change, not the scenes, and I lost count of the number of new outfits the sisters sported in the course of the



Putting a little bit of chic into *Così*: Jonathan Miller (top) and Giorgio Armani

24-hour action. So the show is carried, rightly, by its superb cast. Thomas Allen's world-weary, bored Don Alfonso is a riveting character-study. His eyes glaze over with indifference as the young people go through their predictable routines, and he executes a quintessentially Millerian little dance of triumph when the offstage chorus signals the humiliating denouement. He sings the role with impeccable style.

Miller's direction suggests that the men will soon turn into Don Alfonsos, a tragedy for them, especially for Simon Keenlyside's lively, roundly-sung Guglielmo, who is over halfway there by the end. Bruce Ford, equally doomed, sings Ferrando's two arias so beautifully that the loss of "Ah, lo veggio" is all the more keenly felt; it is usually cut because tenors can't manage it, but Ford could have sung it to bits and I wish he had.

Am Murray's dry wit and her colourful way with words made her a Despina to treasure, even if somewhat in the abstract, and Susan Graham was in fabulous voice as a scatty Dorabella. Fiordiligi holds no terrors for Amanda Roocroft's technique, but could take more in the way of shapely phrasing.

Admittedly she was hampered by Evelino Pido's turgid conducting of "Per pietà" — indeed, Pido took a surprisingly unsavoury view of the score, making an un-Mozartian meal of the accompanied recitatives and generally favouring slow tempos. The orchestra was on uneasy form.

One big mystery, apart from precisely who the chorus were supposed to be: why did the officers wear elaborate wigs in the first scene and their own hair thereafter? I'm still puzzling over that.

RODNEY MILNES

ALTHOUGH some fashion designers turn their catwalk shows into theatre, offering costume rather than clothes in an effort to create drama — and, perhaps more importantly, to ensure press coverage — the Italian Giorgio Armani has always shied away from such needless histrionics. The clothes he designs are understated, and his fashion shows run as smooth as silk.

As the costume designer for Jonathan Miller's modern-dress production of *Così fan tutte*, Armani has dressed the singers (male and female) in designs from his spring/summer 1995 ready-to-wear collections, fluid designs which are the epitome of no-fuss modernity, befitting Miller's no-nonsense set, which coincidentally bears more than a passing resemblance to the fashion designer's Via Borgomano headquarters in Milan.

For the most part the female leads, Amanda Roocroft and Susan Graham, are dressed in elegant trouser

suits (long skirts are donned when the women are beset with depression, hush-balloons are swathed in glittering diaphanous veils for their marriages). Their suits, Bruce Ford and Simon Keenlyside, wear Armani's signature soft tailoring, except when they are posted to battle, when they appear in military uniform accented with the sky blue berets of the United Nations forces. The chorus, dressed in black trouser suits and matching T-shirts, look like would-be sales assistants at the designer's Emporio Armani stores.

With *Così fan tutte*, Armani has artfully engineered the most modern of all statements — product placement. Why buy the *I Saw Così fan tutte* T-shirt, when you need only walk a hundred yards or so down the street to the designer's Covent Garden store, where you can purchase an outfit just like those modelled by the cast? Bear that, Mr Lloyd Webber.

IAIN R. WEBB



Haute couture comes to the Garden: Thomas Allen (Don Alfonso), Amanda Roocroft (Fiordiligi) and Bruce Ford (Ferrando) in Jonathan Miller's new Royal Opera production of *Così fan tutte*

RECITAL

Hard
Lieder to
follow

SCHUBERT'S bicentenary will be celebrated in 1997, and nobody, it seems, can wait. The Wigmore Hall has begun a tripartite survey of his music which starts by exploring the years 1811-17, continues in 1996 by spanning 1818-24 and culminates in a celebration of the composer's last two years.

The countdown began on Wednesday with a recital by a partnership of musicians who are one of the best things that has happened to Lieder in general and Schubert in particular for a long time. Tenor Christoph Prégardien and fortepianist Andreas Staier both have independent solo careers, but together the strength and integrity of their artistry lay bare the soul of Schubert for all to see.

Prégardien is a Baroque specialist and a Mozartian whose first love is Lieder. His approach to word and phrase, treating each song

Prégardien/Staier
Wigmore Hall

rather as a heightened poetry reading, reminds one of the artistry of Peter Schreier: his mobile tenor has a smoother edge without any loss of intensity. Staier's playing convinces me finally that the fortepiano is the instrument for Schubert. In so many details of timbre, qualities of resonance and velocity, Staier reveals a breadth of subtlety that even the most perceptive piano performances have obscured.

All of this enabled Prégardien and Staier to pull off a rare coup. They began the evening with an early work long shunned by even the most ardent Schubertians — the epic, 20-stanza, classical Schiller ballad "Die Burgschaft" — and gripped their audience by believing once again in the dramatic detail and momentum of its narrative.

They doggedly stuck with Schiller through the first half, swinging into "Hector's Farewell", in which the alternating voices of Andromache and Hector revealed the vulnerability and imagination of Prégardien's tenor. Not until the ghastly "Gruppe aus den Tartarus" did they make any concessions to popular taste.

The second half was Goethe's. In the gently flexing movement of his songs of night and longing and the intensity of the Harper's songs, Prégardien and Staier prepared the ear and spirit for what could be a revelatory three years.

HILARY FINCH

THEATRE: Emma Thompson's mother gets back to the stage as a Scot in Leeds; Leeds is blown apart in London

West Yorkshire Playhouse announced the details of its forthcoming season at a lunchtime bash in Prudential's London headquarters, a red castle soaring above Holborn. Drink and little things on toast were being served in a lofty pillared hall, where I exchanged pleasantries (as they say in *The Tailor*) with Timothy West, due to play the troubled MP in Alan Bennett's *Getting On*, opening in February. Barry Rutter (*The Cracked Pot* in March), and Emily Woolf (*Juliet* in April).

The season begins, however, with *The Winter Guest*, by Sharman MacDonald, author of the marvelous *When I Was A Girl I Used To Scream And Shout*. It will be Alan Rickman's first professional stab at direction, and to play the mother of an estranged daughter he has coaxed back to the stage, after five years away, the actress Phyllida Law.

Sooner or later an interview with Law has to name her family, so it may as well be sooner. Her husband was Eric Thompson, whose voice introduced us to Zebibee and his playmates in *The Magic Roundabout*, and her daughters are the actresses Emma and Sophie. Her son-in-law is Kenneth Branagh. Now back to her. How did her career begin?

"Oh, now you've asked me. I was going to be a doctor. I managed to persuade myself, from the depths of

Full power of the Law

my ignorance, that I was dying of a disease. I was going to devote myself to curing the nation before I died.

"So I gave up everything at school that I was good at, like drawing and music, and went to Glasgow University. There I discovered that I wasn't dying of this disease."

Does she wish to name the disease? "Oh, VD, of course. In those days there was such ignorance about everything like that. In the war my delightful Aunt May, if you asked her what VD was, she'd say: 'Digging for Victory'. Oh dear. So when I discovered that I wasn't going to die I thought I'd like to be a theatre designer, because I could draw, and I went to the Bristol Old Vic School.

In those days everyone started with a bit of technical training. If you were going to be a stage manager or anything like that you did the first year with the acting students. You did all the classes but you also worked in the theatre and then peeled off and went into theatre design or whatever it was. And I just didn't peel off. I went on acting. So I became an actress sort of by default, really."

Her career has taken her to both the Old Vics, Bristol and London, back home to Glasgow to act at the Citizens', to the Royal Court, the



Phyllida Law: gloriously happy in Sharman MacDonald's new play

National and the West End. Her last role was Mistress Page in *The Merry Wives of Windsor* at Chichester, and for a few moments she talks of Shakespeare, of going with Emma to Stratford to watch Sophie in *All's Well That Ends Well*. "We cried our eyes out. Both of us with noses as big as lamp bulbs."

A moment later she says: "My favourite stupid remark is 'I hate

Shakespeare', which at home I announce regularly because my children and any of their friends go white with fright. They love it, you see. It's as if they were born talking it."

Doing *The Merry Wives* was a struggle. "I had very elderly parents. Well, I've had a succession of elderly parents, but the last two were on their last legs. My mother and stepfather were ninetyish, and because the Chichester performances were in repertory I was able to go up to Scotland and come back down again. But after that I just took short jobs in films, or in telly if they weren't longer than three weeks. I couldn't have got up to Scotland if I'd been in a long run."

Films and telly. It sounds very grand. I don't mean it to. But I couldn't do anything else, and I was very lucky to get the jobs I did get and steer a little line through the five years of their dying.

The last thing I did on television was play a woman with early senile dementia. I marched into the office and said: 'Five years research! So art — I mean life — had come doubling back. What am I trying to say? Art imitated life.'

"That finished in August. And here I am offered this glorious job, and the only possible reason for turning it

down after all these years of saying, 'I'm terribly sorry but I can't do anything of that length of time', is traven cowardice. And, as Alan Rickman pointed out: 'He's a very bad actor. Craven Cowardice.'"

"I'm playing a 70-year-old mother. My daughter's husband has just died. It's quite, in a sense, elegiac without being poetical or sad. It's rather life-enhancing. I think, but I'm very daunted about talking of that because the thing that attracted me to the play is its language. It's Glasgow, and I'm Glasgow. And Sharman's writing has the rhythms and the wonderful phrases that are absolutely familiar to me."

"I read it lying down in bed, and started to laugh. And you know how it is when you laugh lying down. It's unstoppable. If anyone had passed in the street they would have thought, 'My God, a madwoman!'"

She does not make the role sound a sad one, but in speaking of the painful events in her own life she can round off the experience with a laugh that does not negate the sorrow. Anna Neagle once described a role as "A bit of a laugh, a bit of a tear," and maybe that will describe MacDonald's play. It's a fair description of life, after all.

JEREMY KINGSTON

● *The Winter Guest* is at the West Yorkshire Playhouse, Quarry Hill, Leeds (013-244 210) until Feb 18

Discover how
rock was rolled
in ancient Greece.

FROM PENTELIKON TO THE PARTHENON.
The chronicle of a Doric capital's journey
towards the first marble Parthenon.

An exhibition of drawings
by the Architect Manolis Korres
which depict how the
architectural wonders of antiquity
were actually built.

The exhibition is open on weekdays,
10 am to 3 pm,
January 27 - February 27, 1995.

Foundation for Hellenic Culture,
60, Brook St, London W1Y 1YB.
Tel.: 0171-499 9826

Shocking scenes in Sloane Square

Blasted
Theatre Upstairs,
Royal Court, SW1

after a few hours with an armed and ravenous soldier in the room.

Not that the journo himself is much cop as a human being. Kane has created, and Pip Donaghy presents, an apocryphally unlovely slob. He enters the room, fag stuck in his mouth, and marches over to the minibar to pour a double gin, leaving Kate Ashfield's appleblossom-cheeked wait waiting uncertainly in the doorway. When, after much hesitation, she

decides to stay, her joyful discovery of the well-sprung mattress is endearing. However, she turns out to be a touch simple and prone to fits, sweet-natured but far too naïve, you might suppose, to survive the disasters that explode outside and within the room.

Kane writes vivid dialogue, skilfully paces disclosures, and is not afraid to introduce quite lengthy silent scenes. James Macdonald's tight direction sustains the tension,

THE flyer for Sarah Kane's play shows a tin-hatted soldier in some desert terrain cheerily giving the V-sign. Jeremy Kingston writes: This would explain the title, you think, were it not that the flyer also says the action takes place in a hotel room in Leeds. Here a middle-aged tabloid journalist is trying to seduce his 21-year-old former girlfriend. Their world is going to fracture around them, forcing them to confront their most violent nightmares.

All will be revealed in time, you say to yourself as you climb to the top floor of the Royal Court in Sloane Square,

passing a notice warning that some scenes may disturb. This usually means naked bodies and sexual acts, and we can all take those these days even if, as now seems likely, there'll be a bit of rape at some point.

At gunpoint, it turns out, but this is almost the least of what is calculated to disturb. How about homosexual rape, for instance? A chewed tongue; eyeballs; for seconds; and, since hunger can make necrophages of us all, a venture into grave-robbing?

POP ON FRIDAY: The burning sons of Atlanta ... Sleeper look forward to hotel rearrangements ... Dutch treat

God gave rock'n'roll to them

The Black Crowes are not just a rock band; they're claiming their birthright, as lead singer Chris Robinson tells David Sinclair

It is the middle of the afternoon in Dublin. The hotel room curtains are drawn shut. The bed is unmade. The smell of piss sticks in the air. Frankly, it does not take a degree in social anthropology to recognise this scene as the natural habitat of the rock'n'roll musician on the road.

Even so, students of the species would be hard pushed to find a better example than Chris Robinson, singer, co-songwriter, occasional harmonica player and full-time mouthpiece of the Black

crowes. Twenty-eight years old, 6ft 2in tall and weighing less than 100 stone, he is the image of spectral, nouveau-bippy chic. Both his wrists are decorated with silver bracelets. A silver skull dangles menacingly from a string round his neck. There is a big silver ring on his index finger and another on his thumb. His long,

black hair frames a pale, beaky face with a scruffy little beard. His rail-thin legs are squeezed into a pair of tight blue jeans that flare out alarmingly from the knees.

“On a bad day, glory is beyond our reach. On a good day, we can part the sea.”

Three albums down the line, and with combined sales of the first two now in excess of ten million copies, his band's reputation as a gang of road-hardened, rabble-rousing, good ol' boys from Atlanta, Georgia, precedes them. And Robinson is at pains to point out that, unlike all those clever, ironic British groups who can't get arrested in America at the moment, the Black Crowes walk it like they talk it.

“Music is ancient,” he says. “It's spiritual. That's such a simple thing. And for us the only way we can keep track of ourselves and who we want to be is just by telling the truth. Being as honest and as real as we can be.”

“People always said that David Bowie was rock's charameleon. Well, either that or he was just the

triestest dude, who had to reinvent himself at every step of the way to stay young or whatever. But I don't want to invent myself. I want to be myself.”

For Robinson, authenticity is the key to his music: he claims it as his birthright, no less. “I grew up in the southern United States. And all those forms of music — jazz, blues, country, gospel, R&B and rock'n'roll — came from the south. And it's still there.”

Robinson and his guitar-playing younger brother Rich were born into a musical household. Their father, Stan Robinson, was a professional folk and country musician who played the Grand Ole Opry. Although the old man was not a great source of encouragement — Chris had it drummed into him from an early age that he “couldn't carry a tune from a well to the house in a bucket” — the boys

would nevertheless spend their weekends being ferried around the neighbourhood hootenannies and hoodlows.

As Rich remembers it, “Chris and I didn't decide to be in a band, we just assumed it.” Accordingly, the brothers played their first gig together in 1984 as Mr Crowe's Garden at a bar in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Six years later, the Black Crowes released their debut album *Shake Your Money Maker*.

Ask Chris to name the singers he admires and he comes up with a list that includes Bob Dylan, Keith Richards, Gram Parsons and Van Morrison. Ask about his favourite musicians in general and he mentions the Grateful Dead, the Byrds, John Coltrane, the Allman Brothers Band, the Replacements and Big Star.

The strange thing is that, despite his impeccable background and influences, reviewers and journalists will keep getting their wires

crossed and insist on comparing his spectacularly hoarse, bluesy style of singing to that of Rod Stewart when he was in the Jeff Beck Group and the Faces, and to Paul Rodgers of Free. Instead of being recognised as fearless upholders of a noble, southern roots-rock tradition, the Black Crowes have all too often been branded a 1970s retro-band.

“Oh, there's journalists who've never really listened to our records or come and seen us play,” Robinson says with an impatient wave of the hand. “They seem to think that ‘retro-rock’ is a genre, which I think is so pathetic. You know, if you're



“Music is ancient,” says Black Crowes' Chris Robinson (centre, with rock'n'roll centre-parting and shades, but of course, “It is spiritual. That's such a simple thing”).

really stuck in that I feel bad for you. If you don't understand the way that we look... if that's all you think that we are and you think that we've stolen all these things from somebody else's life, then you're the ones who need to look and see where you are, and see what things are deep and what are shallow.”

Later the same evening, the Crowes assemble backstage half-an-hour before showtime at the SFX, a 1,500-capacity hall at the rough end of Dublin. Every member of the band is 6ft or taller and, apart from

the workhorses — drummer Steve Gorman and percussionist Eric Bobo — they all look as if a high wind would blow them away. Having applied a fine coat of white pancake to his face, Chris Robinson looks like the principal ghost as he leads the spindly men onstage to a tumultuous welcome.

They open with an arresting barrage of “Thick N' Thin”, “No Speak No Slave” and “P-25 London” — a song from each of their three albums — and although they are only in the preliminary stages of a marathon world tour, it quickly becomes apparent that this is a band operating close to the

peak of a considerable potential. For a solid two hours they pummel and pound their way through a cross-section of material, with particular emphasis on the blues and heavy, stoner-funk end of their repertoire.

Their policy is to change the set list every night, and several numbers have spaces set aside for jamming sequences. Tonight “Viser Time” takes off into a spiralling guitar duel between Rich and Marc Ford that recalls the heyday of the Allman Brothers Band. It's almost good enough to take your mind off the fact that, for the last 20 minutes or so of the show, apart from the

front of house spots, the entire stage lighting rig has broken down.

“On a good day, we can part the sea,” Robinson says later. “And on a bad day, glory is beyond our reach. But you've got to keep looking for it. You have to trust everyone on the stage for it to happen. By the time we get to London it'll all be more in place.”

● America is available on American/Reprise Records. The Black Crowes play the Albert Hall, SW7 (071-589 8212), Jan 28 and 29; Guildhall, Portsmouth (0705 524355), Jan 30; Royal Concert Hall, Nottingham (0902 462630), Jan 31; Sheffield City Hall, (0742 735295), Feb 1.

And so to Sleeper, perchance to dream

When you have just seen your new single go in at No 16, and the world is your prairie oyster, it's nice to get together with a like mind for a bit of girl talk

The green-faced wall totters to the bar, and speaks the language of Hangover. “Bloody Mary, please. I warn you, I may need 15 or 16 of these before I can talk without groaning.” Her skin is translucent, her eyes screwed against the power of the midday winter sun, and there is a smudge of half-hearted make-up on her eyelids, indicative of a) being too drunk last night to wash it off, or b) too frail and itchy this morning to do more than dab gently with an eyeliner pencil, before tottering her head against the mirror and giving up.

Louise Werner, however, is suffering with glee — after all, it's not every day a girl hears that her single's gone into the charts at No 16, and that she'll be on *Top of the Pops*. And if the charts were a living creature, they too would be gleefully hungover this morning as “Inbetweeners” by Sleeper is the first Classic Pop Single of 1995, and raises one's hopes about the rest of the year to the size of the EC food mountain.

“I'm glad we're going to be famous this year,” Werner says, carefully sitting down. “It means we'll never have to stay in guest houses again. Really, the most bizarre people run guest-houses — at this one we stayed in in Birmingham, the son of the woman who owned it had a huge knife scar across his neck, from one side to the other. We kind of ran away from him.”

“Andy [Sleeper's drummer] went to his room, and there was already someone in his bed. He wouldn't leave. He said he liked it and he was comfortable and we could shove off.”

“And you can't be rock-starish in boarding houses, can you? I mean, what is there to wreck? They have those old Seventies tellies that are so huge you'd do yourself an injury if you tried to chuck them out of the window; it would be too pathetic to trash a Teasmad; so all that's left in the end is getting those little cartons of UHT milk and crushing them with your hands until they explode and splatter everywhere.”

Previous interviewers — curiously, all male — have picked up with a vengeance on Werner's pronouncements on sex and female sexuality. It's the little matter of lyrics like “Come and suck down meat with me / until it makes you feverish / I love to watch you

eating stuff / Do you kiss your mother with those lips?” and interviews where Werner will say: “There's this view that women want romantic sex — and they just want good sex.” But this is all cool and good and needs to be said, because whatever certain circles believe about women's sexual emancipation, there are still articles in magazines telling you to giggle at men's jokes and never go to bed on the first date. But why not go to bed on the first date? You can make tons of exciting new friends that way, and it saves money on a string of nervous, twitching dinner-dates. Besides, it's fun.

So Werner is tired of talking about sex, and so we turn to cysitis. “We're just talking about women's things, aren't we?” Werner says. “But cysitis is a living death, it really is. Nobody ever talks about it, but if I was faced with a choice between having my arms removed and getting cysitis ever again, I'd wave goodbye to my arms quite happily. Er, except I couldn't, because I wouldn't have any arms.”

“But the worst, the absolute painful worst, is getting it on tour when there isn't a bath in the room, just a shower. Almost as bad are the remedies people recommend. Bicarbonate of soda and ground ginger. Urgh. People turn into sadists when you have cysitis — the things they try and get you to take, and you take them because you think you're dying. Really, it's almost enough to make you give up sex.” She gives a saucy grin. *Monks three miles away melt.*

So is Werner ready to be famous? “Yeah, I still feel vaguely uncomfortable when people ask me for my autograph — it's like, I'm me, you don't want my signature — but I'm looking forward to going on *This Morning*, with Richard and Judy. They fascinate me. You can always tell when they've had a row the night before, and Judy still hates Richard's guts and gives him all the difficult things to do, like taste the Curried Fruit Salad, or hold a hyperactive puppy. I love that public veneer that can be seen to be cracked. Flawed stars are ace.”

Unfortunately then, by that reckoning, Werner is not ace at all.

● “Inbetweeners” is out now on Indolent Records, with the album, *Smart*, to follow at the end of January. Sleeper's tour starts on February 13

NEW ALBUMS: Pure gold from the nether lands; plus pearls of punk

BETTIE SERVEERT

Lamprey (Beggars Banquet BBO 169)
A SPECTACULARLY unpleasant, eel-like creature that leads on the blood of other fish, the lamprey seems an odd choice of animal to adopt as the title of a record, especially one as gracefully executed as the second album by Dutch quartet Bettie Serveert.

But even when the band is negotiating passages of near-stillness or conjuring a mood of apparent tenderness, there is a distinctive thread of tension lurking beneath the surface calm.

Canadian-born singer Carol van Dijk has one of those vixen-wail voices more commonly associated with Irish women called Dolores or Sinéad. She can sound sad, steely, vulnerable and violent all in a single song — and frequently does — while, behind her, guitarist Peter Visser steers the numbers from delicate opening verse to volcanic climax and back again.

For an album proceeding from a basic indie-rock guitar-band format — give or take the hint of a string section on “D. Feathers” — *Lamprey* is an extraordinarily haunting musical experience. From the bouncy pop of “Ray Ray Rain” to the apocalyptic “Totally Freaked Out” it's the stuff that dreams are made of: some of them sweet and forlorn, others deep and murky.

VARIOUS ARTISTS
The Best Punk Album In The World ... Ever! (Virgin VTD 42)

COULD you imagine a Mersey beat album without the Beatles? Or a round-up of guitar heroes that omitted Jimi Hendrix? By the same token it's hard to imagine any punk compilation without a track by the Clash, let alone one calling itself *The Best Punk Album In The World ... Ever!* (Come to think of it, wasn't the first Clash LP the best punk album ever?)

It is a shame that this 48-track selection has been blighted by such a glaring deficiency, since in all other regards it provides a tremendous pop overview of punk. Just about everyone else who

Bettie's stove is cooking



Haunting Carol van Dijk and the boys of Bettie Serveert

made a mark during those wonderfully turbulent times here — the Sex Pistols, Buzzcocks, the Damned, the Adverts, the Jam, Siouxsie & the Banshees, the Stranglers, the Skids, Magazine, the Ramones — and nearly all of them are represented by the right songs. The picture is rounded out by incursions from bit players like Bow Wow Wow (“C30, C60, C90”) and the Flying Lizards (“Money”), and fellow travellers such as the Only Ones (“Another Girl, Another Planet”), Iggy Pop (“The Passenger”), Killing Joke (“Eighties”) and the Motors (“Dancing The Night Away”).

Naturally, the nostalgic re-marketing of punk as yet another rock heritage item is a travesty of the movement's original ideals and vigorously to be deplored. But what a fantastic collection of old songs this is.

THE HUMAN LEAGUE
Octopus (Eastwest 4509-98750)
AFTER punk came the Human League, now down to a *ménage à trois*, but still boasting that they were the first group to make a successful pop album without using guitars. *Octopus* is a bullish attempt to echo the “classic” sound of their big hit album of 1981, while simultaneously asserting the League's supposed

credentials as a modern act.

“Time to get contemporary / The past is not the place to be,” Phil Oakley sings in “These Are The Days”. But, as with movies, cars and fashion accessories, nothing now seems so dated as a musical style that was originally designed to be “futuristic”. Oakley's fruity baritone resonates with comforting familiarity on the current hit “Tell Me When”, but the karaoke-style vocals of Susan Sulley and Joanne Catherall are unnervingly prominent on cloying pop tunes such as “One Man In My Heart” and “Never Again”, and Ian Stanley's production remains firmly locked in the 1980s.

The Human League may have invented the sound, but others, notably Pet Shop Boys and Erasure, have since deployed it to much better effect than this.

THE CHIEFTAINS

The Long Black Veil (RCA 74321 25167)
HAVING called in favours from old drinking buddies such as Mick Jagger, Van Morrison and Tom Jones, and recruited various other obvious candidates to the cause — among them Sinéad O'Connor, Mark Knopfler and Marianne Faithfull — Irish trad-folk minstrels the Chieftains have come up with the most readily marketable album of their long and ever-green career.

Be that as it may, some of these collaborations are, frankly, a bit of a mess. When “The Rocky Road To Dublin”, featuring all of the Rolling Stones, gives way to an impromptu blast of “Satisfaction” it sounds as if someone has suddenly opened the door to an adjacent recording studio. And Ry Cooder's vocal on “Coast Of Malabar” is simply terrible.

But Sinead manages a surprisingly credible version of a traditional Gaelic-language song called “Mo Ghile Mear”, and Cooder's slide guitar playing on “Dunmore Lassies” produces a wondrous combination of Celtic reel and country blues.

MacDonald possesses a voice of real beauty: pure and strong with an edge of harshness. On “Kyrie” she sings the Greek chant into the natural echo chamber of an underground water reservoir; on “Mo Chubhrachan”, a Gaelic cradle song, the words hover over a mist of electronically treated breath sounds and subliminal voices created by producer Philip Strong.

DAVID SINCLAIR

NEW WAVES

Beauty and the beat

Yesterday reworked today becomes the sound of tomorrow

As our streets are laid with cables in preparation for the much-touted information infobahn, how will the unadorned voice make itself heard above the babel of the future? Two clues have fallen on to my doormat.

Kiss Closed My Eyes by Laurel MacDonald comes from Canada on Improbable Music. *Murder Ballads (Drift)* by M.J. Harris and *Martin Bates* is released in Italy on Musica Maxima Magnetica. The music, though, originated in England. Both explore archaic song forms, setting solo voices against electronic soundscapes.

This unsettling contrast of exposed humanity and studio technology creates moods that take us back — further than any bogus traditionalism — to the deeper meanings of the song lyrics. Harris (of Lull and Scorn) and Bates (from Eyeless in Gaza) work with old murder ballads such as the blood-thirsty “Lucy Wan”, and a disturbing, *Nightmare On Elm Street*-style tale of “Long Lankin”, a character who lives in the moss, tortures a baby in order to lure his mother downstairs, then kills her. On “The Fowler”, Bates sings eerie glistandi over sounds that evoke the creaking shift of giant ice floes.

MacDonald possesses a voice of real beauty: pure and strong with an edge of harshness. On “Kyrie” she sings the Greek chant into the natural echo chamber of an underground water reservoir; on “Mo Chubhrachan”, a Gaelic cradle song, the words hover over a mist of electronically treated breath sounds and subliminal voices created by producer Philip Strong.

DAVID TOOP

TOP TEN ALBUMS

- 1 Carry On Up The Charts Beautiful South (Go! Discs)
- 2 The Colour Of My Love Celine Dion (Epic)
- 3 Dummy Portishead (Go! Discs)
- 4 Definitely Maybe Oasis (Creation)
- 5 Always & Forever Eternal (EMI)
- 6 Parklife Blur (Food)
- 7 Cross Roads — The Best Of Bon Jovi (Jambou)
- 8 Crocodile Shoes Jimmy Nail (East West)
- 9 University Throwing Muses (4AD)
- 10 Steam East 17 (London)

Compiled by MRR

McMillan hits out to fashion recovery

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

ALTHOUGH a maiden Test century by Brian McMillan placed South Africa in a strong position on the first day of the game against Pakistan in Johannesburg yesterday, he had to share individual honours with a jet-lagged fast bowler.

McMillan's unbeaten 106 was largely responsible for his side recovering to reach 354 for seven after being 168 for five in mid-afternoon. But South Africa's position would have been even better had Aamir Nazir not taken two wickets with successive deliveries late in the day.

Nazir had flown into Johannesburg only 90 minutes before the start of play as a replacement for the injured Waqar Younis, forced out by a hamstring strain and pains in his lower back. A delay in clearing customs meant Nazir

dispatched by a yorker. But Nazir was denied the chance of any further heroics by his second attack of cramp, which forced him to leave the field nine overs before the close.

South Africa were soon in trouble after winning the toss. Wasim Akram had Rudolf Steyn caught behind from a thinned leg glance with only a single scored, and although Gary Kirsten and John Commins added 54 in the next nine over Aqib Javed bowled Commins "through the gate" for 13 and had Daryll Cullman caught behind before he had scored to leave South Africa struggling at 59 for three.

Kirsten and Cronje took the score to 106 for three at lunch and their partnership was worth 79 before both were claimed by the left-arm seamer, Kabir Khan, who was playing in only his second Test.

Kabir removed Cronje in the seventh over of the afternoon session as he was beginning to dominate. Cronje had reached 41 off 65 balls, having hit seven fours, when he failed to get on top of a cut and guided the ball straight into the hands of Asif Mujtaba in the gully.

Kirsten reached an accomplished half-century with a pull for four, his ninth boundary, and hit two more fours before becoming Kabir's second victim. The left-hander also fell to an attempted cut shot, top-edging to Asmir Sohail at second slip.

However, Pakistan lacked the fire-power to press home their advantage, and Jonty Rhodes and McMillan hit their side out of trouble.

Rhodes, who might well have lost his place in the side after a poor series against New Zealand, scored 72 from 128 deliveries before falling to Nazir, while the powerful McMillan played some thrilling shots, which brought him 14 boundaries, as he raced to his hundred from 146 balls — his previous best Test score was 98.

McMillan deserved his stroke of luck shortly before the close when he was bowled by one of 19 no-balls sent down by Wasim. Of the 58 extras recorded during the day, 31 were no-balls.

The bowling figures show three players with incomplete overs, a statistical freak caused by Nazir twice breaking down after starting an over, which had to be finished by Aqib Javed and Kabir Khan respectively.

Roberts, with the assortment of equipment he uses to treat the England players, must now tend to his own injury

Injury jinx claims new victim

By SIMON WILSON

IT WAS so far-fetched that, in the case of this particular cricket tour, it had to happen. As one England player after another succumbed to a bizarre assortment of injuries and illnesses around Australia, there was one man to whom each knew he could turn with urgency and confidence: the physio. That was, until yesterday. Yesterday, the physio copped it.

David Roberts, England's physiotherapist for the past three years, discovered on arriving in Victoria where the team began a four-day tour against Victoria earlier today that his left index finger was broken, a result of him helping out in fielding practice in Melbourne.

The finger is in plaster, as is the back of his hand, but Roberts was confident yesterday that the party would not be drafting in another replacement. Four players have flown home already because of injury and another five called up at various times.

Apart from the four who could not complete the tour — Martin McCague, Craig White, Darren Gough and

Shaun Udal — ten players have been injured since the team reached Australia in mid-October, including one of the replacements. Neil Fairbrother, whose shoulder injury stopped him from playing at Bendigo. Another replacement, Mark Iliot, has been injured since leaving the team to join the England A party in India and has flown home.

breaks to his right index finger in the nets before a match had been played. Udal then broke

After that England, who are 2-0 down after three Tests of the five-match series, never had all 16 members of their original party available at one time. They were most seriously depleted during the match against Queensland at Toowoomba shortly before Christmas.

WOMEN'S LIST OF WOES

Anger/illness	<i>Matches mixed</i>
Broken finger	2
Broken thumb	2
Chicken pox	4
Shin fracture	<i>Sent home</i>
Cold strain	4
Chicken pox	8
Bark strain	1
Hemorrhoid	2
Side strain	<i>Sent home</i>
Groin strain	1
Groin tendon	1
Hemorrhoid	1
Broken finger	4
Foot fracture	<i>Sent home</i>
Shoulder strain	2
Side strain	<i>Sent home</i>

ENGLAND'S LIST OF WORDS

Player	Injury/illness	Matches missed
A.J. Stinet	Broken finger	5
G.D. Udell	Broken thumb	2
D.J. McIlwain	Chicken pox	4
M.J. McCague	Shin fracture	Sent home
J.P. Cooney	Cold strain	4
J.E. Benjamin	Chicken pox	5
M.A. Adairman	Bark strain	1
D. Gough	Herniating	2
C. White	Stomach strain	Sent home
P.A.J. DeFreitas	Groin strain	1
G.P. Thorne	Groin tension	1
P.A.J. DeFreitas	Herniating	1
A.J. Stewart	Broken finger	4
D. Gough	Foot fracture	Sent home
N. Fairbrother	Shoulder strain	2
S.D. Udell	Stomach strain	Sent home

FOR THE RECORD

[illegible]

Master craftsman back where he belongs

This is not the time to mince words. Goodness knows, the span of a rugby player's career is brief enough and, when recognition is deserved, it should be forthcoming. Not with sentimental regret after he has departed the scene, but while he is in the creative fullness of his prime. So it must be said, with his supremely articulate performance for the Barbarians against South Africa still fresh in the memory, that Robert Jones, the Wales scrum half, is a true master of his craft and, in the expression of the position's definitive, textbook skills, the best of his generation.

He can pass with length, accuracy and speed to both left and right when most scrum halves favour one or the other. The reverse pass, which hardly any other scrum half possesses, is another piece in his armoury. Beautifully balanced and firm, he kicks with either foot which, again, few can do. So



Gerald Davies looks forward to a successful return for Robert Jones as the Wales scrum half in Paris

close to the powerhouse, it is essential to be an astute reader of the game. Jones, 29, has not been consistently recognised. If he has demonstrated his gifts for ten years since he began as a schoolboy with Swansea, he has only intermittently been able to do so within the Wales team. He has shone through while most around him have been but pale shadows yet, for all this, upon his shoulders and that of his position, has fallen the weighty question of how Welsh fortunes could best be improved when inadequacies were more obvious elsewhere.

Tomorrow, Jones has been selected for the 49th time for Wales when they play France at Parc des Princes. But for the vagaries of selection, this figure could have been more and would by now have made him the holder of the record number of Welsh caps, still in the possession of J. P. R. Williams, with 55. By Jones's calculation, and not including the times he has

always find immediate or universal approval. But, two years later, in 1986, he was playing for Wales. "There have been reasons why I've been left out in the past, but knowing the reasons doesn't take away the disappointment," he said. "I was dropped for the first time in New Zealand in 1988. Jonathan Griffiths took my place and continued at scrum half when the European season began. In 1990, I couldn't go to Namibia because of pneumonia, which meant that Chris Bridges played for the next six matches. And, in the last 18 months, my kind of play is not what the Welsh team was thought to need."

Rugby, like all sports, can suffer from too much analysis. There are too many theoreticians attempting to rationalise the whys and wherefores of a sport that delights, more often than not, in its irrationality and variety. For every one opinion, there are half a dozen more. Robert Jones has suffered too much from such theories: "Of too many people who think they know what's what," as he puts it, aware that he has more experience of the position at this level than anyone else in Wales bar Gareth Edwards. What else could the coaches know?



Jones, training with the Wales squad yesterday, hones his passing before the encounter with France tomorrow

David Miller says means now exist to enforce rugby's more murky laws Cards should strengthen referee's hand

The start of the five nations' championship tomorrow sees the introduction of the controversial disciplinary yellow and red card system, already begun in domestic rugby two weeks ago. The potential benefits seem to be widely misunderstood and unappreciated.

It is not just a question of whether the use by referees of more visible, unequivocal measures, as in football, will enable them to control better the element of excessive violence that is so destructive to the public image of the game. But need, in the eyes of most, is abundantly clear.

Much more, however, it is a matter of whether rugby referees will have the wit and the willingness to utilise the system to curb repetitive breaches of the laws, such as offside, and thereby improve the game for players and spectators. This aspect is perhaps less instantly obvious, yet arguably even more important in a game so often so confused and confounded by the complexity of its laws.

Don Rutherford, the technical director of the Rugby Football Union (RFU), believes the influence of an improved disciplinary system is fundamental to the development of rugby as a world game. "If rugby is to be played well," Rutherford said, "it must have players in onside positions. That's the area [the old system can influence], he referee is there to help 30 players enjoy themselves. I'm pessimistic that the threat [of a slow card] will restrain the players - that we won't see massive numbers of cautions and sendings off, but the players will realise they have to watch it."

It is rumoured that rugby was influenced in its introduction of cards by observation of the system in operation during the World Cup football finals in the United States last summer. A special committee from rugby World Cup (RWC), consisting of Sir Ewart Bell (Ireland), Leo Williams (Australia) and Keith Rowlands (Ireland) was apparently impressed by the stringent application of cards, in conjunction with the laws, by football referees, and the degree to which it allowed skill to dominate.

The proposal to introduce cards was passed to the International Rugby Football Board (IRFB) by the RWC committee, with its recommendation for inclusion in the



Miller: need for clarity



Scott, left, playing for Orrell at Leicester last weekend, was the first player to be shown a red card in the first division of the Courage Clubs Championship



Moore: initiatives welcome

five nations' championship. England initially resisted but, when the proposal was carried, decided to extend the experiment to the senior domestic league divisions. On January 7, David Cleary, the Orrell forward, enjoyed the dubious privilege of receiving English rugby's first yellow card. The practice has operated in France for some time with, significantly, a cumulative totting-up process for individuals and teams. This is conspicuously absent from the five nations' championship and Courage league.

The card system applies to Law 26: Foul play, which concerns not merely violence but three issues - first, obstruction; second, unfair play (technical) and repetitions; and third, misconduct or dangerous play. Rugby, even more than football, being a game in which fierce physical collision is a central factor, the borderline between fair and foul can

sometimes be hard to define. Brutality, however, is mostly self-evident, as with the infamous occasions of the past two seasons which resulted in grave injuries to England players; to de Glanville, against New Zealand, and Callard, against South Africa, with the subsequent sending-off of Rodber for retaliation after the latter offence. Red cards are unlikely substantially to change the attitude or performance of referees, always assuming such incidents are seen. It is unarguable, moreover, that greater willingness to send off those guilty of brutality would rapidly reduce its occurrence. Will Carling, the England captain, and Brian Moore, the hooker, are in no doubt.

"If there is conclusive proof that a player did something [violent], they shouldn't play," Carling insists. "Every incident is well catalogued by video," Moore adds, "and needs dealing with in a serious manner. In that respect, there is a problem in the public's perception of where the game's discipline." Both England players are open minded, while simultaneously expressing some doubt, wondering how the

would soon influence selectors if a colleague was repeatedly losing matches by indiscipline. There ought to be 22-yard penalties for foul play irrespective of where the infringement occurs, if there is not a penalty try." Carling and Moore plead for better player representation in the game's administration, a development of paramount importance in any modern sport and something hotly debated at the centenary congress of the International Olympic Committee this year. "Players know what happened, and are the severest critics of each other," Carling said. "With player representation, the South African [who injured Callard] would have been banned." Moore agrees: "I can't think of any walk of life where decision-makers for the affairs of the under-30s are appointed from among those

who have not been directly involved for 20 or 30 years." Moore is particularly concerned about the absence of cumulative penalties for yellow-card offences. The scope for referees to improve the technical aspect of the game lies in Law 26's catch-all provision for "bringing the game into disrepute". This would allow, for instance, the issuing of a yellow card to a member of a team that has repeatedly been offside, never mind that the guilty players have varied. The same argument applies to incorrect feeding of the scrum, or deliberate collapsing of the scrum.

There is at present some general confusion concerning the RFU directive to referees not to be "demonstrative" when issuing cards. Yet that contradicts the explicit purpose: that they are a visible indication that a player has been cautioned. Likewise, if a referee speaks to a player and does not show the card, it is

Canada's students supply test for Scots

LEARNING, as Canada's rugby union team has discovered in the past few months, can be a painful process. Sixty points conceded against England and six consecutive defeats on their demanding autumn tour have been hard to digest. Yet they enter the international match at Murrayfield tomorrow confident that the lessons have been absorbed, and that their commitment to a new running game will add to Scotland's recent misery.

Their captain, Gareth Rees, who wins his 29th cap tomorrow, agreed that recent performances against England and France had been unacceptable, but had helped to reveal the side's shortcomings. "That is why we have had such a tough fixture list," he said. "We need that in Canada. We haven't got anything like the five nations' [championship]. We are trying to play a simpler, more expansive game, but there is a learning process there, and we are going right through it in the extent of 60 points against us."

Rees, who said the defeat at Twickenham was the low point of his rugby career, took heart from the fact that Canada scored three tries in that match. If ball-retention can be improved and if the athletic peck provides sufficient possession, "then I seriously believe we can beat Scotland," he said.

The Canada coach, Ian Birtwell, said Scotland should not read too much into the Twickenham setback. "Scotland will make a grave mistake if they think we will play as we did against England," he said. "We are building towards a running game in South Africa for the World Cup, and are making great improvements."

Canada make three changes from the side beaten 28-9 by France last month. Teaching commitments have deprived them of the wing, Lougheed, who scored twice against England, and injury rules out their former captain, Hadley. Mark Cardinal comes in at hooker and Kevin Whitley, the one new cap, replaces Hadley.

The France A team makes one change for the international against Scotland at Highbury, Glasgow, tonight. The prop, Louis Amary, is injured and will be replaced by Emanuel Menieu.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 44

ALUDAL
Marshy, of marshes, especially (of plants) growing in marshy ground, from the Latin *palus*, *paludis* a marsh. "The proposed series of terms runs thus - Paludal: plants of marshy ground, roots of which are in water or wet ground most part of the year, or constantly."

UEBRADA
A mountain stream in South America, also a ravine. Spanish, *uebrada* is feminine of *quebrado*, the past participle of *quebrar* to break, *he broken* feminine thing. "Next morning I rode out on my mule, to take my last dip in the quebrada of the Loseria, which is a rapid in a beautiful little rivulet, distant from Panama about three miles."

JINGOCANDY
Some kind of confection or other, *hapax legomenon* from James Joyce, *Ulysses* 1922, either from *ringo* a variant of *ringo* - *undy*, or *ring* 0 candy. "Hot herringgips, green mugs of sack, ovejassies, sugar of roses, marchpane, gooseberried pigeons, ingocandies." They sound delicious.

A'ANGA
The monetary unit of Tonga, from the native word, *The Times* 1966. "Tonga has decided against calling its new decimal currency unit the dollar because the native word, *tala*, also means a pig's snout, the soft end of a coconut, or, in vulgar language, a mouth or similar orifice. The new unit, to be introduced next year, will be called *pa'anga*, which has only two alternative meanings - a coin-shaped seed and, not surprisingly, money."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE
Qd7+! Kxh7 2 Rb4 mating

Offiah seeks double century

By Christopher Irvine

MARTIN OFFIAH whizzes past milestones as swiftly as he goes round defenders. Another looms for him tonight at Bradford where the Wigan and Great Britain rugby league wing will be seeking the four tries he requires to become only the second player to score 200 touchdowns in the first division. Ellery Hanley being the first.

In four seasons at Widnes, Offiah scored 120 league tries. Although injuries have restricted his productivity at Bradford since he was bought for a world record £440,000 in 1992, he has managed 76 since then, 22 in 16 championship appearances this season.

If Regal Trophy matches are included, Offiah, 28, is the leading try-scorer of the season, with 30, and is happy with his game. "Instead of doing the things people kept telling me to do, I've returned

Jumbo Sports Crossword

TWELVE readers have won prizes in The Times Jumbo Sports Christmas Crossword. The winners of the first six correct entries drawn have won autographed copies of *Letting Rip, the fast-bowling threat from Lille to Waqar*, by Simon Wilde; the six runners-up have won copies of *Visions of Golf, a celebration of the work of the Allsport agency*. The closing date for entries was January 14.

The winners were: G Copley, Wadworth, Doncaster; Jane Wintersgill, London W9; R Patterson, Scarborough; J Medley, Worcester; J R Beard, Lythcott Maltravers, Dorset; Chris Lawrence, London SE10.

The runners-up were: M Nicholson, Lincoln; M P Young, Highbridge, Somerset; Michael Moran, Penrith, Cumbria; Eddie May, Thorpe Bay, Essex; D M Roberts, Hall Green, Birmingham; A P Sparks, Pewsley, Wiltshire.

SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1. Mid-wicket; 8. Medals; 9. First Wicket; 13. Saves; 14. Inter 15; Neale; 16. Victory; 18. Press; 20. Ernie; 21. Ames; 24. Oval; 26. Bell; 27. Charlie Smith; 28. Vsa; 30. Pop; 31. Mags; 32. Fall; 35. Helmer; 36. O'Brien; 39. Aston; 41. Leg; 42. Drop; 43. Cockerell; 46. Space; 48. Pals; 49. Sano; 49. Pot; 50. Dip; 53. Gas; 56. Out; 58. Deliberately; 59. Heavyweight; 60. Lie; 61. May; 62. Ice; 65. Old; 68. Asit; 72. Inner; 73. Lions; 74. Pat Eddery; 76. Zola; 77. MCC; 78. Monte; 80. Romans; 81. Overhaul; 83. Star; 84. Tommy; 85. Roy; 89. Barn; 91. Jeremy Guscott; 95. Lala; 96. Owens; 98. Roy; 99. Eagle; 100. Ake; 101. Tony Meo; 103. Dole; 104. Pezz; 105. Luck; 106. Grant songs; 107. Attack; 108. Intercept

DOWN: 1. Master; 2. Devon Malodrin; 3. Impact; 4. Knosco; 5. Thistle; 6. Matthews; 7. Durham; 8. Lange; 9. Faldio; 10. Wrist; 11. Nai; 12. Ray Bingham; 17. Open golf shot; 19. Savers; 22. Minor; 23. Shill; 25. Tip; 29. Arms; 30. Peaked; 32. Pades; 33. Extra; 34. Gooch; 37. Deep; 38. Mead; 40. Toppled; 44. Towel; 47. Bangor; 51. Ulster; 52. One won; 53. Gm; 54. Shy; 55. Galt; 57. Oldham Athletic; 58. Denis Compton; 63. Elery; 64. Engineer; 65. Oaks; 66. Deer; 67. Adams; 68. Grand; 70. Sporting Life; 71. Flat; 75. Slator; 76. May; 79. Toomey; 82. Leg break; 85. Raw; 88. Isack; 89. Cockerell; 88. Swiler; 90. Losers; 92. Robert; 93. Myopic; 94. Peasit; 97. Spire; 102. Yen.

THE TIMES
SPORTS SERVICE
RACING
Commentary
Call 0891 500 123
Results
Call 0891 100 123
Calls cost 39 pence per minute
cheap rate, 49 pence per minute
at all other times

Oliver Holt reflects on how a driver's comeback from the brink of death has lifted Formula One

Wheel turns full circle in revival of Wendlinger

There have been few fairy tales to lighten the spirits of the followers of Formula One motor racing in the past 12 months, but one came true this week. Plucked from an accident that marked one of the lowest points of the traumatic 1994 season, it reached a happy ending yesterday in a factory 20 miles from Zurich.

The first of five groups of journalists were led up several flights of stairs to the top floor of the Sauber team's headquarters in Hinwil and into a long gallery. At one end, two figures stood gazing out over an expanse of whiteness, watching a hovering helicopter whip the snow into a storm of white powder. One was Heinz-Harald Frentzen, the other, Karl Wendlinger.

Everyone had known for weeks that Frentzen had resisted overtures from Williams and McLaren in order to stay with the Swiss team. Wendlinger's position had been less certain as he fought to overcome injuries sustained when he crashed during practice for the Monaco Grand Prix in May, an accident that left him in a deep coma.

Now, though, it was decided. A drive with Sauber and its new engine partner, Ford, is one of the most coveted seats in Formula One this season.

Christian Fittipaldi, the Brazilian, was known to be keen to secure the place for himself but Wendlinger had proved his fitness and Sauber stood by him. The decision confirmed an astonishing comeback.

Wendlinger, 26, smiled as he eased himself into a chair. His movements are slower than before and he walks with a limp. His facial expressions seem intangibly different, too, and he remembers nothing of his accident, nor of another race a fortnight earlier. But he has retained his easy charm and wit, his intelligence and his desire to compete. "All I ever wanted, even when I was in the hospital, was to drive again," he said.

Regular bulletins from the Princess Grace Hospital in



Wendlinger, left, fully recovered from the horrific crash that left him in a coma after his Sauber-Mercedes ran into a barrier in practice for the Monaco Grand Prix last May



Monaco in the hours after the crash revealed Wendlinger's brain was swelling. Most people expected him to die. When he clung to life, the cynics said they were keeping him alive until the race was over. He lay in a coma for 19 days and gradually the signs became more encouraging. Eventually, he was moved to hospital in Austria and was brought back to consciousness. He left hospital at the end of July and the slow process of rehabilitation began.

All the time Peter Sauber, the team owner, insisted that

Wendlinger, who had been more than a match for Michael Schumacher in their days in the Mercedes Sportscar team, would reclaim his drive when he was fit. His loyalty spurred the driver's recovery.

"At first, I just had to try to get back to some sort of normal life," Wendlinger said. "But I was so far away from normal life that even simple things were a great effort. I had to learn to walk again, to do everything again. Every day, I was in therapy."

Then, when I left hospital, I started to do some sports. At first, my idea of sport was just

walking around a bit with my girlfriend in the village where I live. Then I went to the Willy Dugli clinic in Austria and did a little bit of bicycling and some work in the gym.

"The constant support I had from the team was very important because it meant I never lost motivation. I always had the possibility that when I was fit again I could drive the car. Mr Sauber assured me of that from the beginning. Now, I am almost there. There are still a few things I have to improve but I will be fine by the beginning of the season."

The only hiccup in his

progress was when he returned too early for a test at the end of last season and a planned comeback had to be aborted. There were more dark mutterings about his future but Wendlinger kept fighting.

He has now completed the equivalent of three race distances in further tests and the doubts have disappeared. "It is good for the morale of the team to have him back," Leo Ress, the chief designer, said. "We all feel he belongs to us. He is in good shape, now, and we know he will be even quicker than he was before."

CAR 95

"I think I make an 'okay' road car driver, but you would probably find a chauffeur, somebody who does it for a job, would make a better driver than me"

David Coulthard tells Oliver Holt of his likes and hates of off-track driving tomorrow in *The Times*

SPORT IN BRIEF

Halliday's return should strengthen St Albans

ST ALBANS, who defend their national indoor club hockey title at Crystal Palace today, will be strengthened by the return of Andy Halliday from injury, although the absence of Tim Ginn, who is still unfit, leaves them slightly below their full potential (Sydney Friskin writes). Halliday leads a side whose fighting qualities were in evidence when they qualified for the final stages against heavy odds last month.

To qualify from Pool B for tonight's final, St Albans will have to get past Barford Tigers and Stourport, who are both well stocked with talent and experience. Although Hull cannot be taken lightly, the top position in Pool A seems a matter for dispute between East Grinstead and Old Loughbournians, who contested the final in 1993. Old Loughbournians have yet to win this title although, with the wealth of talent at their disposal, this could just be their year.

Jackson strikes gold

JUDO: Simon Jackson, from Rochdale, led the British medal challenge at the world championships for the visually impaired in Colorado Springs yesterday by taking his second world title to add to his two Paralympic and two European titles (Alex Ramsey writes). The win, in the 78kg category, maintained Jackson's seven-year unbeaten run. Ian Rose, 22, from High Wycombe, won the 86kg class while, in the women's competition, Anita Hall, from Wales, won the 56kg.

England close to victory

CRICKET: The England Under-19 team is well placed with a day to go in its match against the Leeward Islands in Montserrat. After gaining a first-innings lead of 76, England reduced the Islanders to 73 for 6 at the close on the second day. Marcus Trescothick, the captain, scored 81 in 189 minutes and Alex Morris contributed 41. Jason Searle took three for 15 in ten overs in the Islanders' second innings. □ Javagal Srinath, 26, the India Test bowler, has signed a one-season contract to play for Gloucestershire this summer.

Nelson rejoins Bears

BASKETBALL: Steve Nelson, the 6ft 5in England forward, has joined Worthing Bears, his former club, after being released by Thames Valley Tigers. He leaves the league champions only a fortnight after their coach, Mick Best, praised him for playing well out of position at point guard. Since then, however, Nelson's court time has been limited and he contributed only four points to the Tigers' triumph over Sheffield Sharks in the 7-Up Trophy final. Ian McKinney has joined the Sharks from Derby Bucks.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm)	Conditions	Run to resort	Weather (Aprm)	Last snow
ANDORRA					
Soldeu	50 90	good powder	good	sun	-5 18/1
		(Excellent skiing with fresh powder on a good base)			
AUSTRIA					
Kitzbühel	70 100	good powder	good	cloud	2 19/1
		(15cm of fresh snow on hard base, good skiing)			
Mayrhofen	40 100	good varied	fair	cloud	-1 19/1
		(10cm fresh snow, generally good skiing)			
FRANCE					
Alpe d'Huez	65 230	good powder	good	fine	-6 19/1
		Superb powder skiing, great conditions			
Avoriaz	110 170	good	good	fine	1 18/1
		Excellent fresh powder giving superb conditions			
Courchevel	100 200	good powder	good	sun	6 19/1
		30cm fresh powder, great skiing, avalanche danger			
Mégève	85 170	good	good	fine	1 18/1
		Superb skiing, powder on a good base, no queues			
Val d'Isère	90 220	good powder	good	sun	9 18/1
		Wonderful powder skiing throughout Espace Killy			
ITALY					
Cervinia	80 250	good varied	good	fine	2 18/1
		Excellent skiing on all pistes, powder available			
SWITZERLAND					
C Montana	205 250	good varied	good	fine	8 18/1
		Very good skiing, colder and some fresh snow			
Mosers	80 140	good powder	good	fine	2 19/1
		Light powder on all pistes, all lifts open			
Zermatt	75 255	powder powder	good	fine	5 18/1
		Perfect skiing conditions, great powder all day			

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper; art - artificial.

Graham remains calm as pressure grows at Arsenal

By RUSSELL KEMPSON

THIRTEEN days ago, George Graham carefully considered the implications of Arsenal's drab 0-0 draw with Millwall in the FA Cup third round and, glimpsing a glint of light, he seized on it. "Let me throw some statistics at you," he said to the assembled media wolves. "Of ten cup-ties this season, we have won seven and drawn three, so let's be positive." Backed by an overall cup record of only two defeats in 44 ties, home and abroad, spanning 2½ years, it was difficult to argue.

Today, the update on Graham's post-match number crunching from the New Den is less impressive. Last week, Arsenal bowed out of the Coca-Cola Cup quarter-finals, losing 1-0 against Liverpool at Anfield; on Wednesday, they were humbled 2-0 by Millwall in their FA Cup replay at Highbury. Dour displays, with not even an Ian Wright goal to savour, and Graham's defiant boast had been reduced to played 12, won 7, drawn 3, lost 2.

On the surface, Graham, 50, remains unruffled. Crises come and go, but never, since he succeeded Don Howe in May 1986, has he faced a predicament of such immediate and wide-ranging proportions. "I won't crack," Graham said amid the FA Cup debris at Highbury on Wednesday. "I'm a hard working lad and I believe in fate. Perhaps all this has been sent to test me. But me resign? I think some people are in danger of getting carried away, aren't they?" His reference to "all this" goes much deeper than only two league wins from 13 outings, almost three months

FOURTH ROUND

JAN 28: "Burnley v Liverpool, Coventry City v Norwich City; Leeds United v Oldham Athletic; Luton Town v Southampton; "Manchester City v Aston Villa; "Manchester United v West Ham; Millwall v Chelsea; Newcastle United v Swansea City; Nottingham Forest v Crystal Palace; Portsmouth v Leicester City; "Queens Park Rangers v West Ham United; Watford v Swindon Town. JAN 29: Bristol City v Everton; Tranmere Rovers v Wrexham; "Stamford Utd v Tottenham Hotspur (18:15). JAN 30: Sheffield Wednesday v Wolverhampton Wanderers (Sky). * all-ticket matches

without a home victory in the Premiership, a squad that contains too many thirty-somethings for comfort and the fact that Graham, beset by injuries and suspensions, has used 30 players in the Premiership this season, more than any other club. The red-and-white malaise has stained Highbury off the pitch, too.

Graham is the main figure of a far-reaching FA Premier League inquiry into allegations of financial irregularities involving players moving from Scandinavia to England.

without a home victory in the Premiership, a squad that contains too many thirty-somethings for comfort and the fact that Graham, beset by injuries and suspensions, has used 30 players in the Premiership this season, more than any other club. The red-and-white malaise has stained Highbury off the pitch, too.

Graham is the main figure of a far-reaching FA Premier League inquiry into allegations of financial irregularities involving players moving from Scandinavia to England.

Yeboah gets permission to play



Chapman: Ipswich move

ANTHONY YEBOAH completed his £3.4 million transfer from Eintracht Frankfurt to Leeds United yesterday when he was granted a work permit by the Department of Employment.

Leeds have been trying for a fortnight to obtain a permit for Ghana football international striker.

Doubts had been raised about the move because of a release clause in the three-year contract should the player fail to settle at Elland Road, which would allow him to leave after a year.

Ipswich will today complete

the signing of striker Lee Chapman from West Ham United in a £70,000 deal.

Chapman, 35, will join Ipswich after a brief spell on loan at Southend.

Birmingham finally completed the signing of the

Striker, Kevin Francis, in an £800,000 deal after the player passed a medical yesterday.

The deal initially broke down last month when Francis, who had been suffering from a knee problem, failed a medical, but he has since had an operation to clear the problem.

Chapple ponders future at Woking

Non-League Football
By WALTER GAMMIE

WOKING begin their defence of the Umbro FA Trophy by taking on Chesham United, of the Diadora League, at Kingfield with the distraction of knowing that Geoff Chapple, their manager, has been approached by Aldershot Town in their search for a replacement for Steve Wignall. Aldershot have set a strict timetable. They say they will have 47 applicants, which they will cut to six next Tuesday, then three next Thursday, before announcing the new man in charge a week today.

Chapple said: "I don't want to leave Woking. Ten years is a long time. We've achieved a lot and I think there is much we can still do." He, however, admits his frustration at the lack of progress at finding Woking the new ground that they need to fulfil ambitions of reaching the Football League.

"We've been talking about it for three

years and don't seem to be any further forward," Chapple said. He will be leading a particularly keen ear to the results of a meeting between the council and club scheduled for next Tuesday.

"People ask me do I really want to drop back into the Diadora League," he said. "Sometimes you might have to take two steps back to go two steps forward."

Chesham are having a season of retrenchment after the end of the high-profile regime of the Aplin brothers that brought them the Diadora title in 1992-93. Under the chairmanship of David Pembroke, a local property developer, Bob Pearson, formerly the managing director at Slough Town, has rebuilt the team in partnership with the player-manager, Paul Roberts, the former Millwall and Colchester player.

Chesham City, of the Beazer Homes League premier division, take on Yeovil Town in a tie that represents a chance for another show of strength from their supporters. A crowd of 2,367 for the FA

Cup fourth qualifying round tie against VS Rugby, which clinched a first round trip to Wycombe Wanderers, brought reminders of heady days of 1973, when nearly 16,000 people watched a Cup-tie against Ipswich Town.

The capacity was then 18,000. It is now 2,850 as safety considerations have sliced the number allowed in an ageing stadium, which the club will be occupying on borrowed time as it is now owned by a property company from which it has a one-year lease.

Clarke, the secretary, said: "Chesham 1980 was in the hands of the liquidators and the club would have gone under if a group of supporters hadn't got together to keep it alive." The new committee had to meet a debt to Harwich and Parkstone, which had brought a sine die ban from the FA, and place a £15,000 bond with the Beazer Homes League before being allowed to continue playing. "We still have to secure the club's future," Clarke said. "It may mean relocation."

THE TIMES CROSSWORD BOOKS

All items include our UK mail order charge. For overseas supplements see below. *Books available in computer format.

- The Times Jumbo Crosswords Book 1 & 2 £5.99 each
- The Times Jumbo Concise Crosswords Book 1 £5.99
- The Times Crosswords, Books 1 to 13 (Penguin) £4.99 each
- The Times Crosswords, Books 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and NEW book 19 £4.50 each **
- The Times Concise Crosswords, Books 1 & 2 (Penguin) (240 puzzles) £5.99 each
- The Times Concise Crosswords, Books 3, 4, 5, 6 and NEW book 7 £4.50 each **
- Sunday Times Crosswords, Books 1 (Penguin) £4.99
- Sunday Times Crosswords, Books 10, 11, 12 and NEW book 13 £4.50 each **
- Sunday Times Concise Crosswords, Books 1, 2 & 3 £4.50 each **

ALSO FROM TIMES BOOKS

- The Sunday Times Book of Answers (PB) £4.50
- The Sunday Times Book of Brain-teasers (PB) £5.49 or both books for £9.49

THE TIMES COMPUTER CROSSWORDS by David Akenhead

Available for IBM PCs and Acorn Archimedes range, now with advanced graphics and help facilities - designed for beginners and experts alike - on 3.5 computer disks (each 60 crosswords each)

- The Times Computer Crosswords Vols. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
- The Times Jubilee Puzzles 1932 - 1987 (56 crosswords)
- The Times Concise Crosswords 3 (100 crosswords)
- Sunday Times Computer Crosswords Vols 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6

NEW! Just released (NB Book no longer available)

Sunday Times Mephisto Crosswords

SOFTWARE PRICES INC. VAT £14.95 PER TITLE

Additional postal charges overseas (airmail)

Europe including Irish Republic, but excluding UK, add £1 per item.

Zone 1, add £1.50 per item (inc. America, Africa)

Zone 2, add £1.75 per item (inc. Australia, NZ, Zealand)

SURFACE MAIL OVERSEAS add £1.00 per item.

US dollar cheques welcome - (£1 = US\$1.50)

Please send cheques or postal orders - payable to:

Akom Ltd, 51 Manor Lane, London, SE13 5QW.

Enquiries, telephone 081-852-4575 (24 hours).

(Return Delivery UK)

THE TIMES
SNOWLINE
0891 333 568
24hr skiing information direct from the resorts in:
AUSTRIA • FRANCE • SWITZERLAND • ITALY
REST OF EUROPE • N. AMERICA/CANADA
SPAIN/ANDORRA • ROMANIA/BULGARIA
OR FOR A FAXED REPORT
0891 300 449
WEATHERLINE 0891 333 462
Comprehensive outlook in the skiing areas for the week ahead
0891 311 426
For information on all Scottish resorts
SKI CLUB
Calls cost 35p/min cheap rate, 49p/min at all other times

Audience warms to American after Bates wilts in the heat

Service as usual for showman Agassi

FROM STUART JONES, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT
IN MELBOURNE

ONLY one competitor was evidently having fun at the Australian Open yesterday. Andre Agassi, the showman playing up to a new tennis audience, turned the second match of his first appearance in the tournament into an amusing exhibition. He was lucky, though. He was playing in the relative cool of the night.

In the fierce heat of the day, during which the temperature was measured at more than 90°F in the shade, a couple of seeds and Britain's lone survivor wilted. Even those who did reach the third round talked of discomfort as they recovered from their ordeals.

Agassi was spared. The main attraction brought in to fill the centre court at Flinders Park, he indulged in charming a crowd of about 12,000, the largest for an evening session, once he had made sure that he

Full results from Flinders Park 38

would avoid the indignity of being embarrassed by a qualifier, Jerome Golmard.

Standing a couple of games away from the formal conclusion of a straightforward victory, he belted an ace and spun round to check the speed registered by the radar gun. He pointed to the screen, tucked in a corner of the court and flashing 191kph.

Having signalled his intentions, he then unleashed a service designed for power rather than accuracy. No more than an inch long, it was gauged at 202kph, marginally slower than the fastest recorded at the championships by Michael Stich and Lars Riemann, both of Germany. Agassi smiled and rolled up his right sleeve to expose his biceps.

In the following game, he

took the breath away by running in towards Golmard's service, thrashing it low over the net and completing the audacious point with an outrageously oblique drop shot, nonchalantly applied with vicious spin. He won more admirers as well as a place in the next round.

The light-hearted touches are doubtless about to be forfeited. Both of his victims have been qualifiers, albeit ruthlessly dismissed for the loss of just 14 games. From here, the opposition will be sterner, starting with Greg Rusedski, the big-serving Canadian who was on the verge of breaking into the top 40 last year.

Ahead lies the prospect of the marketing men's dream. In the last 16, Agassi could face Australia's golden boy, Patrick Rafter, one of only two home representatives left in the championship. The other, Mark Woodforde, was so grateful for the vocal backing on Wednesday that he gave Aus\$50 to his supporters.

His compatriot needs to offer no bribes, though he did donate three sweat-bands after he had beaten another qualifier, Steve Campbell, 6-4, 7-6, 6-2. Rafter expressed relief, especially at serving four successive aces to conclude the tie-break. "It was so hot out there," Rafter, 21, from Queensland, said, "that I was trying to pace myself."

He will next be involved in a preview of the Davis Cup tie in South Africa. He plays Marcos Ondruska, who knocked out the sixteenth seed, Richard Krajicek, in straight sets.

The other seed to fall was Wayne Ferreira, the No. 11, who was credited with an inordinately high number of 100 unforced errors, the beneficiary, Aaron Krickstein, conceding that the conditions had played a part. "It has been a hotter in the past here but we



Bates suffers in the heat of Melbourne on his way to defeat in the second round of the Australian Open

were fortunate to start at ten o'clock in the morning," he said.

Jeremy Bates had the misfortune to be sent out in the noonday sun with Patrick McEnroe. "It was a killer in the beginning," the British No. 1 said. In the end he accepted responsibility for his failure to overcome the con-

queror of Boris Becker, the third seed, in the opening round.

Of the 20 break points that Bates fashioned, he missed all but three to go out 6-3, 7-5, 6-3. "I couldn't capitalise on the chances I had," he lamented after toiling for two hours and 20 minutes.

The quality was even lower

on court No. 11, where Petr Korda recovered from an early warning for time-wasting and a two-set deficit. "I felt as though I was playing in an oven," he said after sharing a total of 192 unforced errors with Lars Burgsmuller, yet another qualifier.

Todd Martin, the eighth seed, suffered from a nose-

bleed midway through his victory over Jean-Philippe Fleurian, and Stefan Edberg, the sixth seed, continued to suffer from eager youngsters. For the second time he was extended by a "young and hungry" opponent, Adrian Panaitescu, from Romania, but at least his 29th-birthday celebrations were not spoiled.

Loss of Proctor causes new headache for weary Wales

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

IT NEVER rains but it pours for Wales. Already deprived by injury of five senior players, rugby union's five nations champions yesterday lost a sixth, Wayne Proctor, before departing for the opening round of the 1995 championship, against France in Paris tomorrow.

Proctor, 22, of Llanelli, who has been playing some of the most assured rugby of his career this season, had apparently recovered from influenza only to go down with a chest infection that required a visit to hospital in Cardiff for blood tests. His place on the wing goes to Simon Hill, of Cardiff, who played against South Africa in November and now wins his seventh cap.

Wales, already without Iwan Evans, Mike Rayer and Nigel Davies in their potential back division and Emyr Lewis and Hemi Taylor in the forwards, clearly sought as much experience as possible rather than offering a first cap to the Wales A wing, David Manley. Hill, 26, played in the victory over France last season though it will be his first visit to the Parc des Princes.

"It's another problem we could have done without, but Simon knows what is required of him at this level," Alan Davies, the Wales coach, said after his squad trained in heavy rain at the Leckwith Stadium in Cardiff. The chances of Wales playing a broad game in Paris are, in any case, comparatively limited, and bad weather could determine the nature of the game both there and in Dublin, where Ireland, who play England, trained yesterday in extremely wet conditions.

England left London after their closed session at Twickenham with the words of two senior players echoing in their ears: both Rob Andrew (61 caps) and Dean Richards (38) have told team meetings this week that they believe the game at Lansdowne Road will be their hardest of the championship.

This is harsh experience speaking, not merely opinion established as a result of defeats in Dublin and Twickenham over the past two years. Andrew has played the Irish ten times, five times at Lansdowne Road, and each of

his older colleagues shares his opinion. "We hope we have learned the lessons of the last two years," Will Carling, the captain, said.

Carling refers to the "distractions" of the last two meetings: In 1993, to the earlier loss in the championship to Wales and the forthcoming British Isles tour; last year, to the expectation of the advantage that playing at Twickenham might have brought and a failure to solve the problems apparent in the narrow win over Scotland.

"This year," he said, "we have a number of options, but players have to do the basics well. This time, we may be going over there as underdogs. We have heard they are confident and, looking at the bare facts, maybe they should be."

FIVE NATIONS



CHAMPIONSHIP

Cards on trial 40

Jones back in control 40

Five of the England team have yet to play an international in Dublin and will have to become accustomed to the "wall of sound" that Jack Rowell, their manager, ascribes to the ground. "The Irish have a well-balanced team, two wings who are a threat and Brendan Mullin back in the frame," Rowell said. "Their forwards will get wound up and, if we give them things that encourage them, the crowd will get behind them and they will become supermen."

□ Mark Ring, the centre or stand-off half capped 32 times by Wales between 1983 and 1991, has been dismissed by Pontypool. "The interests of parties would be best served by a severance of Ring's connections with the club," a statement by Pontypool said.

Nash's Middlesex career may go up in smoke

Three New Zealand cricketers — Stephen Fleming, the batsman, and Dion Nash and Matthew Hart, the all-rounders — have been dropped for the three-match one-day international series against West Indies after being fined for using cannabis during the recent tour of South Africa.

Nash, who sprang to prominence in England last summer with 11 wickets and a half-century in the Lord's Test match, is scheduled to join Middlesex as their overseas player for the coming season as a replacement for Desmond Haynes.

Joe Hardstaff, the Middlesex secretary, interviewed on BBC Radio's *Five Live*, said: "I applaud the action they have taken because drug-taking has no place in our game."

The New Zealand cricket authorities said Nash deserved to be given a second chance with Middlesex. "That is probably a good guess," Hardstaff said, "but we will consider Dion's position when we have all the facts."

After the three players were each fined NZ\$250 (about £100), Nash said he had "merely simulated" using cannabis at a private party. Fleming and Hart admitted smoking the drug.

Fleming said: "I deeply regret my involvement in the incident that has led to my suspension and for bringing shame and embarrassment on the game of cricket in New Zealand. I am very aware of my responsibility as a role model for young people. This has been a

Michael Munro reports on a drugs scandal in New Zealand cricket

painful lesson for me. I hope it will serve as a useful lesson for other young people."

The suspensions were imposed after an inquiry into the team's performance on the tour to South Africa, from which it returned 12 days ago. Geoff Howarth, the coach, resigned two days ago amid uproar over poor results and reports of lack of discipline off the field. Mike Sandlant, the team manager, had stepped down a week earlier.

Howarth, the former Surrey play-

er and New Zealand captain, looks to have borne the brunt of the dissatisfaction with a record that has seen New Zealand lose their past 12 one-day internationals and go down to a 2-1 defeat in the series against South Africa after winning the first Test match. Howarth has been replaced by John Reid, the former Test batsman — no relation to the New Zealand captain of 30 years ago.

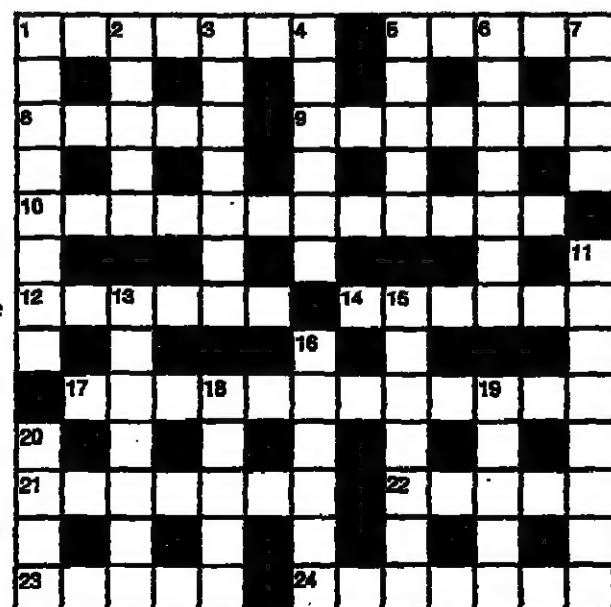
John Morrison, the former Test batsman who is now a television commentator, attacked an "unhealthy star culture" in the team. Some less experienced players seemed to think they had joined the rich and famous and had forgotten what they were in the team for, he said.

Sir Richard Hadlee, the former Nottinghamshire and New Zealand all-rounder, said the credibility of New Zealand cricket was now "very much on the line".

New Zealand Cricket, the sports governing body, is celebrating its centenary and the arrival of West Indies for the one-day internationals and two Test matches heralds two busy months in which South Africa, Australia, India and Sri Lanka will also join the celebrations.

Justin Vaughan, Dipak Patel and Royden Hayes have been called up for the suspended players for the first one-day match against West Indies in Auckland on Sunday.

John Woodcock, page 38
South Africa fight back, page 38



EXCLUSIVE FROM TIMES BOOKS: The Times Guides: English Style and Usage (HB) £8.99. International Finance, Japan, Nations of the World, Middle East, Good University Guide 1994-5, Single European Market £9.99 each. Peoples of Europe (HB) £8.99. European Parliament - June 1994 (HB) £26. NEW! The Times Guide to the New British State £17.99. The Times Maps: The World (Wall Map laminated) £27.99. The Times 1000 1995 (HB) £33. The Times Concise Atlas of the Bible (HB) £33.99 (reduced from £35.99). The Sunday Times Book of Answers £4.50. Book of Brain Teasers £5.49. Prices include P&P (UK). Send cheques with order payable to Alton Ltd, Manor Lane, London, SE13 5QW. Return del. Tel. 081 852 4575 (24hrs) No credit cards.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD No 374

- ACROSS
- 1 Bitter, sour (7)
 - 5 Information channels (5)
 - 8 Foreign(er) (5)
 - 9 Course of diet therapy (7)
 - 10 Look round as tourist (3,3,6)
 - 12 Servant's uniform (6)
 - 14 Of uneven quality, coverage (6)
 - 17 Unseen listener (3,2,3,4)
 - 21 Normal course of duties (7)
 - 22 To taste; unscripted remark (2,3)
 - 23 Small reflected shaft of light (5)
 - 24 Lockjaw (7)

- DOWN
- 1 Water (joc.) (5,3)
 - 2 Banishment (5)
 - 3 Inn of Court governor (7)
 - 4 Clear, light red (6)
 - 5 Gog's fellow-giant (5)
 - 6 Popular, spoken Greek (7)
 - 7 Last Stuart monarch (4)
 - 11 Prescribed content of study course (8)
 - 13 Carrion bird; one preying on the weak (7)
 - 15 Temporarily suspended (7)
 - 16 Formally witness (to) (6)
 - 18 Poppy drug (5)
 - 19 Exhausted; inclusive (3,2)
 - 20 Two-master; northern bridge (4)

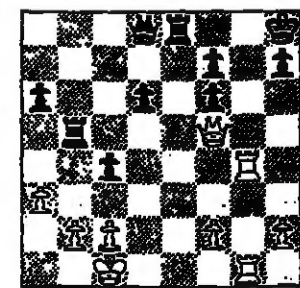
SOLUTION TO NO 373

- ACROSS: 1 Massage 5 Mused 8 Split 9 Pertain 10 Insomnia 11 Idly 13 Good and proper 16 Lett 17 Octuplet 20 Premier 21 India 22 Proof 23 Surfeit
- DOWN: 1 Missing 2 Silas 3 Autumnal 4 Esprit de corps 5 Mars 6 Stand up 7 Dandy 12 Croupier 14 On the go 15 Retreat 16 Lap up 18 Lade 19 Riff

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Nunn - Pritchett, Bundesliga 1985. White has broken through on the kingside. How does he deliver the coup with a checkmating combination?



Solution, page 40
Raymond Keene, page 6

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

- PALUDAL
a. Marshy
b. Playing games
c. Pretentious
- QUEBRADA
a. A leather armband
b. An inn
c. A mountain stream

- RINGOCANDY
a. A sort of sweet
b. Malaysian arboreal primate
c. Flattery
- PA'ANGA
a. A jungle knife
b. Tongan money
c. A heart attack

Answers on page 40

THE DIRECT ROUTE TO CHEAPER CAR INSURANCE

Most direct insurers can only offer you one policy. But Telesure offers you the best of the UK's top 190 schemes. Get more for your money including:

- 24hr accident management service
- 24hr legal helpline
- 24hr breakdown helpline
- Legal expenses cover

- Guaranteed lowest quote from the UK's top 190 schemes
- All makes, all models & all drivers covered
- Fast & friendly
- No form filling
- Instant cover
- Unique claims service
- Free quotation

Not available in Northern Ireland

Telesure
0181-665 9988